FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

20 FEBRUARY 1985

Iran-Iraq War

Reporting the 18 February attack on a Kuwaiti container ship, Tehran radio contended that the ship was attacked by an "unknown plane" while INA cited reports accusing Iran. However, Iran is believed to be responsible for two additional attacks on Gulf shipping on 18-19 February, *GULF DAILY NEWS* reported. A fully laden South Korean oil tanker was attacked near the Kuwaiti container ship on 18 February sustaining light damage, and a Saudi vessel sustained "superficial damage" following an attack near the Shah Allum shoal on 19 February, according to the paper.

PLO-Jordan

Following 2 days of meetings in Tunis, the PLO Executive Committee issued a statement, published by Amman's *AL-DUSTUR*, stating that the PLO Executive Committee approved the Palestinian-Jordanian plan for action. The statement noted that the plan of action is based on rejecting "capitulatory plans" including Security Council Resolution 242.

Lebanon

Security — The IDF killed one "terrorist" and arrested five suspects during searches in the southern village of Tibnin, the IDF spokesman announced in a statement carried by ITIM. As for the Beirut area, Voice of Lebanon radio announced that Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) militia killed a French officer in an attack on a French observers' position in Al-Shuwayfat.

Politics — Former President Sulayman Franjiyah and Druze Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra called for President Amin al-Jumayyil's resignation in statements reported respectively by Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon and the PSP's clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio. A PSP source cited by the Voice of the Mountain announced that PSP leader Walid Junblatt will not attend cabinet sessions until the government carries out promised reforms. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Rashid Karami denied rumors of an impending cabinet reshuffle, according to MENA.

Sudan

U.S. Aid — President Ja'far Numayri, at a press conference reported by Omdurman radio, stressed that Sudan has not received any "official information" from the U.S. Government on the suspension of assistance.

SPLA Controlled Areas — The Sudanese People's Liberation Army is in "full control" of the Equatoria region and is occupying the town of Waw in the Upper Nile Region, according to JANA.

Iranian Economy

In line with the government's policy of strengthening the private sector, it is planning to sell industries confiscated from supporters of the shah's regime, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi announced in a speech broadcast by Tehran Radio. The aim is to encourage "small capital," he said, and the employees of these factories will be given first preference in the sale of shares. Denying that the government has "gone toward nationalization in practice," he pointed out that the state sector accounts for only one-ninth of the total capital of registered companies. He also contended that Iran has a "healthy" economy despite the war and "conspiracies," asserting that inflation has fallen to 11.9 percent and that investment and output are growing.

Afghanistan

Foreign Relations — A DRA Foreign Ministry official informed the Pakistani charge d'affaires in Kabul that Afghanistan rejects as "completely baseless and untrue" Pakistani claims that two Afghan planes bombed the Kharlachi area on 11 February, BAKHTAR reported.

Mujahidin Operation — In what is considered the "biggest" mujahidin operation in almost a year, 30 Soviet and DRA soldiers were killed and 10 Soviet trucks were destroyed in an ambush near Qandahar on 13 February, Riyadh radio noted citing sources "very close" to the Afghan mujahidin.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 034 *20 February 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Executive Committee Continues Tunis Meetings *[Sanaa Voice of Palestine]* ..... A 1
Jordan-PLO Agreement Approved *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 20 Feb]* ..... A 1
Palestinians React to Jordanian-PLO Agreement *[KUNA]* ..... A 1
PLO-Jordanian Committee To Discuss Mutual Problems *[Algiers Voice of Palestine]* ..... A 2
Fatah's 'Abbas Discusses Palestinian Dialogue *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 16 Feb]* ..... A 2
PLO's Al-Hasan Stresses Value of Fahd's U.S. Visit *[Jeddah]* ..... A 3
Sidon Pullout Linked to Murphy-Al-Asad Agreement *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 3
PLO Radio on Israeli Withdrawal From Sidon *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 4
Arab Airlines To Utilize Arabsat Services *[WAKH]* ..... A 4
Arabsat in Orbit; Experiments To Begin 18 Feb *[SPA]* ..... A 5
Resistance Operations in S. Lebanon Detailed *[Baghdad Voice of PLO]* ..... A 5

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

Reportage on Attacks on Oil Tankers in Gulf ..... C 1
South Korean Tanker Hit ..... C 1
Saudi Tanker Attacked ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Saudi Envoy Leaves After Delivering Fahd Message ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

King Reportedly Advocates Force Against Israel ..... C 1
Prince Bandar Returns From Baghdad, Amman ..... C 2

PDRY

Further on Visit by DFLP's Al-Hawatimah ..... C 2
Meets YSP CC Secretary ..... C 2
Received by Presidium Chairman ..... C 3
Meets Al-'Attas ..... C 3

EGYPT

Mubarak Discusses Economy, Press Freedom, Army Role ..... D 1
Further Reportage on Italian President's Visit ..... D 1
Describes Talks With Mubarak ..... D 1
Departs for Home ..... D 1
FRG Economy Minister Continues Visit to Cairo ..... D 1
Holds Talks *[DPA]* ..... D 1
Received by 'Ali ..... D 2
Meets With 'Abd Al-Majid ..... D 2
Jordanian Speaker Al-Fayiz Departs 19 Feb ..... D 2
Al-Sharif Reveals Studies To Launch Satellite ..... D 2
Fatah Leaders To Visit Cairo in Late February ..... D 2
AL-JUMHURIYAH Criticizes U.S. Position on PLO *[12 Feb]* ..... D 2

IRAQ

INA Claims Vessel Hit by 'Iranian Missile' ..... E 1
Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,747 ..... E 1
President Receives Saudi Envoy, Fahd Message ..... E 1
Jordanian Foreign Minister Visits Baghdad ..... E 1
Received by President ..... E 1
Departs 20 Feb ..... E 1
Thai Commerce Minister Conducts Visit to Baghdad ..... E 1
Meets With Ramadan ..... E 1
Departs 17 Feb ..... E 2
Mauritanian Minister Minnih Conducts Visit ..... E 2
Arrives in Baghdad ..... E 2
Delivers Message to President ..... E 2
Received by Ramadan ..... E 2
Meets With 'Aziz ..... E 2
Briefs: Swiss Ambassador Ends Term ..... E 2

JORDAN

Saudi Prince Bandar Arrives With Fahd Message ..... F 1
Delivers Message, Departs ..... F 1
Foreign Minister Receives U.S. Guest 18 February ..... F 1
House Speaker 'Akif Al-Fayiz Returns From Egypt ..... F 1
Envoy to Bahrain Views Agreement With PLO *[AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ 19 Feb]* ..... F 1
AL-DUSTUR Criticizes Shamir, Sharon Stand on Golan *[15 Feb]* ..... F 1
JORDAN TIMES Notes Low Money Supply Growth *[17 Feb]* ..... F 2

LEBANON

Al-Jumayyil Thanks Fahd for Support ..... G 1
Franjiyah Reiterates Call for Government To Resign *[Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Druze Shaykh Urges Al-Jumayyil To Step Down *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 1
Karami Denies Imminent Cabinet Reshuffle *[MENA]* ..... G 1
PSP 'Source' on Junblatt Cabinet Attendance *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
French Observers Position Attacked; Commander Killed ..... G 2
4 Reported Missing *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Spokesman Denies Observers Missing *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
PSP Investigating Attack *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 2
Karamah Reacts To Recent Events in Sidon *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Hezbollah Statement on Sidon Demonstration *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Karami Seeks Government Reactivation in South ..... G 3
Al-Huss Meets With Italian, Polish Officials ..... G 3
Army's 13th Battalion Arrives in Sidon *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Al-Husayni Departs for Visit to Damascus *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Airport Security Commander Reportedly Resigns *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3

SYRIA

Al-Asad Receives Saudi Envoy, King's Message ..... H 1
Expresses 'Satisfaction' With Message ..... H 1
Honecker Congratulates Al-Asad on Reelection ..... H 1
Karmal Congratulates Al-Asad on Reelection ..... H 1
Al-Asad Awards Order of Merit to 'Struggler' ..... H 1
Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Al-Sulh, Salam ..... H 1
Reportage on Visit by CSSR Foreign Trade Minister ..... H 1
Arrives in Damascus ..... H 1
Confers With Prime Minister ..... H 2
Meets With State Minister ..... H 2
Talks With Defense Minister ..... H 2

Meets With Industry Minister ..... H 2
Confers With Oil Minister ..... H 2
Leaves After Signing Agreement ..... H 2
Reportage on Visit by Arab League's Chedli Klibi ..... H 2
Arrives, Makes Statement ..... H 2
Received by Al-Shar' ..... H 3
Meets Ba'th Party Official ..... H 3
Received by Al-Asad ..... H 3
Received by Khaddam ..... H 3
Foreign Ministry Official Receives Canada's Eliot ..... H 3
Polish Justice Minister, Delegation Depart ..... H 3
Cabinet Discusses Political Issues, Developments ..... H 3
U.S. Policy Views Mideast as 'U.S. Possession' ..... H 3

ISRAEL

Shamir Interviewed on PLO, Settlements, Egypt *[MA'ARIV 15 Feb]* ..... I 1
Shamir on Galilee Security, Camp David ..... I 3
Shamir Wants Tougher Stand on Lebanese Terrorism ..... I 3
Rabin on Amal in South Lebanon, New Arab Axis *[HA'ARETZ 19 Feb]* ..... I 4
Rabin Says Al-Jumayyil Statement 'Grave' *[HA'ARETZ 19 Feb]* ..... I 4
Rabin Pledges Not To Allow Terrorists' Return ..... I 4
David Levi on Lebanon Policy, Al-Jumayyil Speech ..... I 5
General Or Comments on Lebanon Withdrawal *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 15 Feb]* ..... I 5
Lubrani on Security Following Lebanon Withdrawal *[HADASHOT 15 Feb]* ..... I 8
Defense Officials Seek Tougher Lebanon Policy *[YEDI'OT AHARONOT 19 Feb]* ..... I 9
Defense Official on Incidents in Lebanon ..... I 9
IDF Officers on Dealing With Lebanese Shi'ites ..... I 9
Terrorist Suspect Killed in Southern Lebanon ..... I 9
General Lahd Says Security Strip 'Not Efficient' ..... I 9
Combating Amal Hostilities ..... I 10
No Observer to U.S.-Soviet Middle East Talks ..... I 10
Jerusalem Sources React to U.S.-Soviet Talks ..... I 10
Clarification on Reagan Statement Sought *[DAVAR 15 Feb]* ..... I 10
Peres Says Fahd Visit Not 'Great Success' *[THE JERUSALEM POST 18 Feb]* ..... I 10
Sharon Calls 'Arafat-Husayn Accord 'Smokescreen' ..... I 11
Egypt Planning To Implement Husayn-'Arafat Accord *[MA'ARIV 18 Feb]* ..... I 11
Senior Jerusalem Official Rejects Mubarak's Criticism ..... I 11
Peres, Shamir Send Mubarak, 'Ali Messages *[HA'ARETZ 18 Feb]* ..... I 11
Shamir on Egyptian Attitude Toward Peace *[THE JERUSALEM POST 20 Feb]* ..... I 12
Ismailia Chosen Venue of Tabah Talks With Egypt ..... I 12
Egyptian Consul Refuses To Meet Minister in Tabah *[HA'ARETZ 20 Feb]* ..... I 12
Agreement on U.S. Military Grants for Next 3 Years *[HA'ARETZ 17 Feb]* ..... I 12
Finance Ministry Responds to U.S. 'Demands' *[MA'ARIV 17 Feb]* ..... I 12
Moda'i To Seek $800 Million Grant From U.S. ..... I 13
Supplementary Budget Passes Knesset First Reading ..... I 13
Moda'i on Subsidy Issue *[THE JERUSALEM POST 19 Feb]* ..... I 13
Rabbi Levinger Leaves West Bank Vigil Site *[MA'ARIV 19 Feb]* ..... I 13

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives SDAR President Abdelaziz ..... Q 1
Bendjedid Receives Niger Minister of Justice ..... Q 1
Polish Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit ..... Q 1
'Arafat Arrives, Reviews Topics of Talks ..... Q 1
Burkinabe Defense Minister Arrives in Algiers ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Mauritanian Message ..... Q 1
SFRY's Culafic Conducts Visit to Tripoli ..... Q 1
Received by Jabir ..... Q 1
Received by Al-Qadhdhafi ..... Q 1

MOROCCO

Cooperation Minister Defends Treaty With Libya *[Madrid EL PAIS 12 Feb]* ..... Q 2
Lamrani Consults Parties on Forming New Government ..... Q 3
Relations With Mauritania Expected To Be Restored ..... Q 3
Mauritanian Official Arrives With Message ..... Q 4

SUDAN

Numayri Amends People's Armed Forces' Law ..... Q 4
Numayri Holds Press Conference on Regional Issues ..... Q 4
President Numayri Expounds on Problems in South ..... Q 5
President, UK Minister Discuss Refugees ..... Q 5
Numayri Condemns Libyan Offer for Extradition *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... Q 5
People's Assembly Endorses Policy Statement ..... Q 5
Books by Taha, Republican Followers Burned ..... Q 6
SPLA Radio: Opposition Leader Speaks on Anniversary ..... Q 6
JANA: Rebels Control Equatoria, Other Areas ..... Q 7

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa on Sudan University Closure, U.S. Aid Halt ..... R 1
Eritrean Claims Forced Government Conscription *[WAKH]* ..... R 1
Briefs: New Envoy From DPRK ..... R 1

KENYA

Finance Minister Says More Foreign Aid Needed ..... R 1

SEYCHELLES

Soviet Delegation Received by President Rene ..... R 1

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan: Attacks Launched in Galdogob Region ..... R 2

UGANDA

DPRK Agricultural Experts To Establish Farm ..... R 2

CENTRAL AFRICA

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Recently Dismissed High Commissioner Arrested ..... S 1

CONGO

Angolan Envoy Meets With Fisheries Minister *[Luanda]* ..... S 1

GABON

Incumbants Eliminated in First Round of Elections ..... S 1

ZAIRE

Kengo Calls for 'Social Pact' To Support Austerity ..... S 1
Legislative Council Head Leaves on UK Visit ..... S 2
Chilean Envoy Meets With Mokolo 14 Feb ..... S 2
Military Officers Assume Command of New Posts ..... S 2
Briefs: New Envoy to France ..... S 2
CEEAC Head Named Ambassador
French Transport Loan

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

Kerekou Addresses Businessmen on Economic Problems ..... T 1

BURKINA

OAU's Onu Meets Sankara, Comments on Talks ..... T 1

GAMBIA

Buhari Visits Banjul, Announces Donation to OAU Fund ..... T 1

GHANA

Rawlings on Government Alienation From People ..... T 2

IVORY COAST

President Comments on Causes of Economic Crisis *[FRATERNITE MATIN 15 Feb]* ..... T 2
Minister Meets With CSSR Trade Delegation ..... T 2

LIBERIA

Probate Court Rules in Favor of Unity Party ..... T 3

NIGERIA

Buhari Returns From Gambia; Joint Communique Issued ..... T 3
Comments on Dikko, Trial of Kidnap Plotters ..... T 3
'Noninvolvement' of Government Shown ..... T 3
UK Media Criticized ..... T 4
Continued UK Support Alleged ..... T 4
UK Weekly Cited ..... T 4

SENEGAL

Diouf Briefs Cabinet; Kountche Visit Postponed ..... T 4

TOGO

Eyadema, French General Discuss Joint Maneuvers ..... T 5
French Chief of Staff Lacaze Arrives 18 Feb ..... T 5

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

Joint Zaire River Commission Concludes Meeting ..... U 1
Memorandum Signed *[AZAP]* ..... U 1
Mongolian Official Arrives for 5-Day Visit ..... U 1
Holds Talks With Almeida ..... U 1

MOZAMBIQUE

Reportage on Visit by Mongolian Official ..... U 1
Visits Gaza ..... U 1
Meets Machel ..... U 2
Joint Communique Issued ..... U 2
Talks Held With South Africa on Agricultural Affairs ..... U 2
Further on Meeting *[Johannesburg]* ..... U 2

SOUTH AFRICA

Further Details on Raids on Antiapartheid Groups ..... U 3
4 Prisoners Released; 14 More Accept Botha Offer ..... U 3
3 Reject Offer ..... U 4
PAC Member Says Release Not Conditional *[Johannesburg CITY PRESS 17 Feb]* ..... U 4
SOWETAN Editor Comments on Freed PAC Members ..... U 4
Namibian Authorities To Take Over Rails, Roads ..... U 5
Reportage, Reaction to Violence at Crossroads ..... U 5
16 Killed, 246 Injured ..... U 5
Viljoen Blames 'Rumors' ..... U 6
Johannesburg on Unrest ..... U 6
'Official Insensitivity' Partial Cause *[RAND DAILY MAIL 20 Feb]* ..... U 6
Radio Freedom on Violence *[Lusaka]* ..... U 7
UDF Official on Police Raids, Crossroads Violence ..... U 7
ANC Comments *[Lusaka]* ..... U 8

ZIMBABWE

Government Postpones General Election Until June ..... U 8
Muzorewa Comments on Election 'Rigging' by ZANU-PF *[SAPA]* ..... U 8
ZANU-PF Officials Begin Election Campaign ..... U 9
Candidates Chosen ..... U 9
Mugabe Says Security To Be Tightened in Matabeleland *[SAPA]* ..... U 9

PLO Executive Committee Continues Tunis Meetings

GF191640 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee has resumed its meetings which began in the Tunisian capital 3 days ago. The committee has made an overall assessment of the developments in the Palestinian question in view of the recent Palestinian-Jordanian agreement to reach a joint formula to settle the Palestinian question. It also listened to a report from Brother Leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] on the outcome of his recent talks in Amman with King Husayn, which resulted in the signing of the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement.

Brother leader Abu 'Ammar discussed all the clauses contained in the agreement with the PLO Executive Committee members and what this agreement will lead to in bringing about a new concept in Palestinian-Jordanian relations and an Arab move within an international conference to be attended by the concerned parties, including the PLO.

The PLO Executive Committee today will discuss aspects pertaining to the PLO move to enhance the agreement and to implement it in subsequent sessions. It will also discuss reports relevant to the situation of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories, particularly the situation of Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon.

Jordan-PLO Agreement Approved

JN200844 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 20 Feb 85 pp 1, 18

[Sana' al-'Alul's dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee, which has been meeting in Tunis during the past 2 days under Yasir 'Arafat, issued the following statement at dawn today:

The PLO Executive Committee met under Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, in Tunis on 17 and 18 February. The Committee has discussed current issues and the political and military developments in the region, and the Palestinian- Jordanian formula for joint action which was agreed upon between the PLO and Jordan on Monday, 11 February 1985. The committee has also reviewed the detailed reports on the progress of the Palestinian-Jordanian talks that have accompanied this and the explanatory memorandum that was sent.

The PLO Executive Committee stresses that the PLO- Jordanian joint action is based on the following:

1. The Palestinian legitimacy that is represented by the PNC resolutions, particularly in its 16th and 17th sessions;

2. Arab legitimacy that is represented by the Arab summit resolutions, particularly the Rabat and Fes summit resolutions;

3. International legitimacy that is represented by the UN resolutions.

The joint action is also based on the bases stressed by all the previous resolutions. These bases are:

1. Ending the Zionist occupation of the occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem;

2. Achieving the Palestinian people's inalienable rights, including their right to self-determination, repatriation, and to establishing an independent state on their national soil;

3. Rejecting capitulatory plans and unilateral deals such as the autonomy plan, the Camp David accords, the Reagan plan, and UN Security Council Resolution 242, which is not considered a good basis for any just solution that would guarantee the Palestinian people's national rights;

4. Rejecting authorization of any party to represent the Palestinians,or having it share in the right.

The Palestinian-Jordanian joint formula aims at forming a nucleus for joint Arab action away from axes. It also seeks serious and effective action based on comprehensive Arab solidarity.

Confirmation of the distinguished relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian people, the two people's common objective and in accordance with the PNC resolutions, is represented by the establishment of a confederation between the states of Jordan and Palestine. The correct framework for achieving the aspired objectives is represented by convening an international conference under UN auspices to be attended by the UN Security Council permanent member-states, and in which the PLO participates on equal footing with the involved parties, in its capacity as the Palestinian people's sole and legitimate representative.

In accordance with these bases from which the Palestinian-Jordanian joint action proceeds, the PLO Executive Committee has decided to approve this plan, stressing that this action must include the parties concerned in a joint Arab delegation, and that all this should gain full Arab support.

PLO Executive Committee, 19 February 1985

Palestinians React to Jordanian-PLO Agreement

LD162118 Kuwait KUNA in English 1602 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Tunis, Feb 16 (KUNA) — While a Palestinian official was advocating a reasonable rethinking of the PLO-Jordan agreement, the General Union of Palestinian Workers issued a statement rejecting the accord.

Official spokesman and head of the unified PLO media Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman, told KUNA Saturday that the agreement should be viewed within the overall Arab situation and the impossibility of realizing any Mideast settlement under the present Arab-Israeli balance of power.

"The American Administration did not pay any attention to the Arab Fes plan and put conditions that can never be accepted even by its friends among the Arab states", he emphasized.

The U.S. conditions of the PLO's approval of the Security Council Resolution 242 and on direct Arab-Israeli negotiations are not acceptable, he explained.

'Abd al-Rahman said that meanwhile the PLO insists on holding an international peace conference to discuss the Middle East crisis with the participation of the Soviet Union and on the joint Arab delegation in which the PLO is represented.

"Apparently there is a wide gap between the Arab-backed Palestinian formula and the American-Israeli speculation, hence we call for waiting until the American stands are exposed to its Arab friends", he added.

The PLO official advocated the convening of an Arab summit to determine national priorities and means of executing them.

Meantime, the General Union of Palestinian Workers issued here Saturday a statement rejecting the PLO-Jordan agreement on future joint moves on the international arena to solve the Mideast crisis peacefully.

The union asserted that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories and it should participate in any international conference on the Mideast with a separate delegation.

The statement underlined that Resolution 242 completely contradicts the Palestinian people's rights to return, self-determination and establishment of an independent homeland on national soil and called for implementing the U.N. resolution which stipulates realizing the Palestinians' just rights and considered the Fes summit plan and minimum acceptable formula to activate the peace process.

PLO-Jordanian Committee To Discuss Mutual Problems

LD182259 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] The joint Palestinian-Jordanian committee for the support of the kinsmen in the occupied homeland will meet at the end of this week to discuss a number of issues on its agenda. It was learned that it will discuss our people's conditions under the Zionist occupation, housing in the occupied territories, and support for the families of martyrs and prisoners.

Fatah's 'Abbas Discusses Palestinian Dialogue

JN161014 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Feb 85 p 21

[Text] Amman — Mahmud 'Abbas, also known as Abu Mazin, PLO Executive Committee and Fatah Central Committee member, stated that dialogue with the Palestinian Democratic Alliance has not ceased and that the other factions, or so-called National Alliance, will have no place within the PLO. In an interview with *FILASTIN AL-THAWRAH*, Mahmud 'Abbas said that the recent PNC session made two important decisions on Palestinian dialogue: first, a reaffirmation of and abidance by the Aden-Algiers agreement; and second, an authorization for the PNC and PLO Executive Committee chairmans to negotiate on filling the remaining seats on the PLO Executive Committee. For the first time, this has been left with three vacant seats, waiting for the Democratic Alliance factions and some independents to join the Executive Committee. 'Abbas added: A committee under my chairmanship, and with 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad and 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya as members, was formed to follow this issue.

Mahmud 'Abbas said: We met with a Palestinian Communist Party delegation in Prague for 4 days, replied to its questions, and explained that dialogue with Jordan and other Arab countries is based on the constants approved by the recent PNC session. He added: We agreed on basic matters and the Palestinian Communist Party said that it was ready for dialogue. He said that a communist party delegation will arrive to complete the talks.

Mahmud 'Abbas said that dialogue with the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] has not been suspended, stressing that the PLO is eager to negotiate with the DFLP in order to bring it back to the PLO Executive Committee and the other PLO bodies. He explained that differences with the DFLP still exist, especially because it asks for a new PNC to be convened, while we do not see any need for this, and because the recent PNC session did not conflict politically with the 16th PNC session in Algiers.

On forming a general secretariat for the PLO Executive Committee and appointing four Executive Committee deputy chairmen in accordance with the Aden-Algiers agreement, Mahmud 'Abbas said: We were ready to submit this to the PNC for approval. This can only be done by the PNC, since the bylaws need to be amended.

Concerning the reports that PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Aden was linked to establishing a new Arab national political organization, Abu Mazin said: The purpose of 'Arafat's visit was to continue the dialogue. We are also trying to arrange an Algerian-PDRY-Palestinian meeting, to be attended by Egyptian and Arab nationalist forces, so that we can reach a common concept on future internal and external political moves in the Egyptian and Lebanese arenas and create a new Arab situation that would improve our ability to cope with our major tasks.

Regarding relations with the USSR, Abu Mazin said: We do not agree to make our relationship with the USSR dependent on its relationship with Syria. He added: The Soviets have told us why they were absent from the last PNC session. They said the absence was prompted by their desire to continue their mediation role between us and the Syrians. Whether we are convinced of their explanation or not, the main thing is that we accept the general Soviet attitude toward our organization, which has not changed. The Soviets are also calling for continuous consultation with us, so that we will not have separate political stands. Abu Mazin said that Syria, Libya, and some Arab communist parties are trying to disturb relations between the PLO and the USSR by presenting different interpretations of PLO stands.

Abu Mazin said: The Palestinian delegation that recently visited Moscow has removed many of the doubts in relations

between the two sides. It was agreed to turn a new page based on clarity and frankness. The delegation outlined the new developments and proposed political plans. The Soviets assured us that they were satisfied with this visit, which answered many of their questions.

Abu Mazin added: The Soviet envoy's recent visit to Tunis can be considered one of the results of our Moscow visit. This envoy, who attended our talks with the Soviet leaders in Moscow, met in Tunis with the Palestinian leaders, led by Yasir 'Arafat, and learned the steps that the PLO would take. The Soviet envoy conveyed a message from 'Arafat to the Soviet leaders containing our explanation of the recent developments in the Palestinian arena and our idea for solving the political issues facing us. The message also included our thanks to the Soviets for raising the Middle East issue with the United States at the last Geneva talks.

Abu Mazin added: We highly appreciate the USSR stand, because the Soviets have indeed begun pressuring the United States to make it accept a peace formula that acknowledges the Palestinian people's full legitimate rights.

PLO's Al-Hasan Stresses Value of Fahd's U.S. Visit

GF191310 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to the PLO chairman, stressed the importance of the outcome of the visit of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to the United States.

In a statement to the London based paper *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* published today, he called the joint statement issued at the conclusion of the visit an important achievement designed to break the impasse in the Middle East issue. He said: The most important achievement attained during this visit was the success of His Majesty King Fahd in reactivating the Middle East issue. He then expressed gratitude for his majesty the king's adherence to the Palestinian issue and his insistence on the Arab positions — this was made clear in the joint statement. He said this is what the Palestinians were waiting for a long time ago, as they trust the great influence of the Kingdom.

Sidon Pullout Linked to Murphy-Al-Asad Agreement

JN191943 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1642 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Syrian information minister announced yesterday, only 2 days after Israel's scheduled withdrawal from Sidon, that his regime will withdraw 12,000 of its 30,000-strong force in Lebanon. He claimed that these men will be used to guard his country's border with Turkey, to take up positions on the Golan Heights, and to assume certain pan-Arab [qawmiyah] tasks.

We ask: Where and against whom? The Syrian minister did not venture to explain. Actually, this failure was not due to his ignorance of the details, but because those pan-Arab tasks did not exist in the first place — unless of course he meant internal oppression tasks which the Syrian regime may view as pan-Arab tasks.

At any rate, this was not the key point in the Syrian minister's announcement. The key was the partial Syrian withdrawal, the imminence of which was announced only 2 days after the Israeli forces' withdrawal from Sidon. We wonder: Is there any connection between the two withdrawals? We have often said that the Murphy- Al-Asad agreement contains several secret clauses. It has now become obvious that the Syrian withdrawal announcement is one of the secret clauses in that conspiratorial agreement.

We now understand why the Syrian media have created such a big uproar over the great victory achieved by the Damascus regime by the unconditional Israeli withdrawal. Incidentally, this uproar is still continuing after the Syrian minister's clear announcement, which does not require much effort to understand when viewed in its correct context. It seems the Americans sold this withdrawal scenario to the Syrian regime.

If we go back a little, we find that before the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement, the Zionist enemy had always insisted on simultaneous withdrawal of the Zionist and Syrian forces from Lebanon. After the agreement, however, enemy leaders and officials made no further mention of this subject. So the secret clauses of the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement have given the Syrian news and propaganda media the opportunity to hail the great victory achieved by the Syrian regime's steadfastness and confrontation of enemy plans.

The enemy's withdrawal from Sidon was indeed a great victory, but it was a victory achieved by the joint forces' tough resistance and armed struggle, which exposed the enemy forces to great hardships. The enemy had no choice but to flee under the pressure of the joint forces' continuous and effective firepower.

The joint forces have always stressed that they have nothing to do with the political moves made by any side in Lebanon or with any negotiations with the enemy to conclude an agreement on withdrawal or any other subject. It is obvious that the Al-Naqurah talks were staged with the clear and frank approval of the Syrians. This is also shows that the great victory that the Syrian news and propaganda media are harping on has nothing to do with the Syrian regime. In fact, the Syrian regime, as is now clear from their announcement yesterday, has given the Zionist enemy the concession it has always insisted on concerning partial withdrawal from Lebanon.

The Syrian announcement on the partial withdrawal of its forces is a scandal that refutes the Damascus regime's allegations. This scandal reveals more and more the gravity of the Murphy-Al-Asad agreement, whose secret clauses are now surfacing one after another. Their gravity will become even clearer when we know the full extent of the Syrian regime's commitment to the clauses of that conspiratorial agreement, which is in fact a U.S. plan being carried out with Syria's open assistance.

As for the Syrian information minister's claims about the reasons for the withdrawal of some of his regime's forces from Lebanon,

these are no more than exposed, empty, and feeble claims at best. The coming days are bound to reveal other secret clauses that the Syrian regime signed in the camp Murphy agremenet.

PLO Radio on Israeli Withdrawal From Sidon

JN171900 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1631 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Political editor's dispatch]

[Text] It is premature to judge developments in Sidon and its region following the Zionist enemy forces' withdrawal from the city. However, we are fully confident that the Sidon southern Lebanese citizens and their forces can remain united, just as they were in the face of occupation. The Sidon citizens and forces can create the discipline needed to achieve their interests. They also can foil the enemy's plans and ambitions and the expectations of all who thought that Sidon would witness factional war following the Israeli withdrawal.

What happened yesterday proved that the citizens in the capital of southern Lebanon deal with events easily and in accordance with their experience, thus rising above all expectations. The road was easily opened for the Lebanese Army forces which were waiting at the Al-Awwali River bank. These forces entered Sidon and the surrounding hills amid proper celebrations.

This is insufficient, of course, to judge future developments because, in the Lebanese situation, the conflict of influence occurs not only in districts and cities but also in buildings and streets. On the other hand, it is difficult to say that the Lebanese Army forces which entered Sidon are qualified, given their number and structure, to be an arbitrator in conflicts of influence. At any rate, what happened yesterday makes us feel optimistic. The citizens and forces in Sidon were unanimous on canceling the manifestations of influence and conflicts. They were also unanimous on receiving the Lebanese Army in its capaity as the symbol of legitimacy and the homeland.

The citizens in Sidon and southern Lebanon know better than anyone else that they were the real force that removed the occupation. They exercised all means of resistance, including strikes, boycotts, bullets, and explosive charges. Their struggle was great; no one could see divisionist limits in this struggle. In fact, this struggle can be viewed as an indivisible whole without any regional or factional expressions. This unique practical experience seems to have trained the citizens in Sidon and southern Lebanon mentally and raised them to the level of achieving cohesion and, consequently, of formulating their relations with the legitimate authority; this is their own legitimacy.

Citizens in Sidon know that the Lebanese Army, for many reasons unrelated to the Army's personnel, did not come to their city to liberate it. However, the citizens in Sidon granted the youths of this army who carry Lebanon's flag and name, the honor and image of liberation. With this spirit, Sidon and all southern Lebanese citizens can continue to be the example and vanguard of the rest of the Lebanese homeland, which was fragmented by factional war and conflicts of influence.

We reiterate that what happened yesterday is insufficient to judge the future. Sidon, which was isolated under occupation and united in the face of the occupiers, is open now to the possibility of another war, a war of small ambitions and conflicts over war booty. Those who are behind this war, as Lebanon knows well, do not hesitate to carry out any action no matter how disgraceful or destructive it is as long as it serves their own petty ambitions. Perhaps Sidon will witness explosions and killing. However, the citizens in Sidon should maintain the awareness and experience of resistance in order to foil all plans against their city and the hero southern Lebanon. Only with the spirit and experience of the resistance, through confronting the major enemy and exerting efforts to liberate the rest of southern Lebanon, can the citizens in Sidon maintain the bright picture of their cohesion. Only in this way can the capital of southern Lebanon, and southern Lebanon itself, maintain this bright picture amid the darkness of the Lebanese and Arab situations.

Arab Airlines To Utilize Arabsat Services

GF161842 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Manama, 16 Feb (WAKH) — Director of Gulf Air Telecommunication Eng 'Abd al-Majid Sharif said the company would use the Arabsat services the coming summer.

Any passenger boarding Arab airliner can make a phone call to any spot in the world during the flight over sea and vice versa, Mr Sharif pointed out.

He called on the Arab Air Transport Federation to initiate talks in this respect to implement such a project which would take two years.

Should the project be implemented, Arab airway corporations would be ahead of the world travel corporations in providing on-flight communication services.

Mr Sharif predicted that the Arabsat would begin its service late July.

Arab airlines could benefit from Arabsat by obtaining immediate data on weather conditions — any airliner captain could get first-hand information on weather conditions via the satellite. Such a system is used in Europe, Mr Sharif said.

Arab tankers could also use Arabsat in their conventional contacts currently being made via foreign satellites, affiliated to Intersat.

Arabsat will ensure direct contact between the central reservation computer at the company's headquarters and the company's offices all over the Arab world. Special direct lines will be available to transmit and receive telegrams between the company's head office and its offices in the Arab world, he said.

Direct wireless contacts with the airliners in the air via the radio is not currently being made via the satellites, he added.

On the costs of contacts via Arabsat if compared to foreign satellites, the director of communications at Gulf Air said that

unofficial information available shows that the use of Arabsat for the first two years will not cost less, but in the course of time it could be cheaper. Arab governments might give Arab airlines cheaper prices to encourage them to depend on Arabsat. "We, as Arab companies, hope this will happen since our current contacts via the foreign satellites are really very expensive," he said.

Arabsat is really a pride though it came late some time.

It will contribute to bringing Arab countries closer together by making the direct contacts faster, he added.

Arabsat in Orbit; Experiments To Begin 18 Feb

LD181326 Riyadh SPA in English 1228 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Riyadh, Feb 18, SPA — The first Arab satellite has reached its ultimate orbit last night, Dr Faysal Ahmad Zaydan, under secretary at the Posts, Telegraphs and Telephones Ministry, said in Riyadh today.

In a statement to SPA, Zaydan, who is also chairman of board of directors of the Arabsat, said all obstacles, which had hindered the opening of one of its solar energy panel, had been overcome.

The Arabsat's main aerial is expected to be operational tonight, he said.

He added that its experimental operational programmes would begin on its schedule tonight.

Resistance Operations in S. Lebanon Detailed

JN192026 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese joint forces continue to chase personnel and vehicles of the Zionist occupation forces and their agents in occupied southern Lebanon, inflicting further losses in personnel and equipment in their daring operations which have escalated remarkably. The heroes of the Palestinian-Lebanese forces waged a daring attack with machineguns against a vehicle of the agent Antoine Lahd, commander of the so-called army of southern Lebanon , killing Colonel Abraham, chief of the Zionist liaison unit with the agent forces. The attackby the heroes of the joint forces occured in the 'Arab Salim village sector and resulted in the killing or wounding of a number of guards of the agent Antoine Lahd.

Heroes of the joint forces also detonated high-explosive charges while ambushing the vehicle of Shlomo Gafani, an officer of the Zionist invasion forces, who was passing at the entrance of Al-Bazuriyah east of Tyre. The explosion destroyed the vehicle and killed Gafani. The Zionist military spokesman today admitted that two Israeli officers, one of them a colonel, were killed in ambushes set up yesterday, Monday, by the joint forces in southern Lebanon. The spokesman added that Israeli forces besieged the areas of operations and launched a large-scale search campaign for the heroes of joint forces, who peacefully withdrew to their bases.

Yesterday, men of the joint forces attacked a Zionist military patrol near Furayj town. The attack, which was carried out with machineguns and rockets, destroyed a military vehicle and damaged another, killing or wounding their occupants.

Heroes of the joint forces attacked a Zionist military patrol near Tibnin town with machineguns and rockets. The attack destroyed a Zionist military truck, killing or wounding its occupants.

Furthermore, joint forces men yesterday attacked a Zionist military post south of Al-Nabatiyah. The attack destroyed a military half-track, killing or wounding its occupants.

Heroes of the joint forces yesterday also detonated a remote-controlled high-explosive charge under a Zionist military post near Bazuriyah, east of Tyre, in the occupied south. The explosion destroyed one jeep and damaged another, killing or wounding their occupants.

Heroes of the joint forces yesterday also attacked a military post belonging to the so-called army of southern Lebanon militias near Al-Nabatiyah. The attack killed or wounded a number of personnel from the agent post.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the occurence of the operations but, as usual, concealed the Zionist and agent losses. He said that his forces and personnel from the agent forces immediately besieged the areas where the operations occured and launched large-scale search-and-arrest campaign for the heroes of the joint forces, but in vain.

GULF AFFAIRS

Reportage on Attacks on Oil Tankers in Gulf

South Korean Tanker Hit

NC191430 Paris AFP in English 1410 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi Feb 19 (Afp) — Two vessels, including a fully laden oil tanker, were damaged by missiles from unidentified warplanes in the southern Gulf yesterday, shipping sources said today.

Only one attack had been reported yesterday.

The sources said the 71,474-ton South Korean-owned tanker *Royal Colombo*, carrying 125,000 tonnes of Saudi crude, was hit two hours after a Kuwaiti-registered container ship, the *Al-Manakh*, was hit by four missiles.

The attack on the *Al-Manakh* was reported yesterday.

The sources said there were no casualties among the 28-member crew of the *Royal Colombo*, which had suffered a similar air attack last September.

Two sailors were hurt in that incident.

A Japanese sailor was killed aboard the 32,534-ton Kuwaiti vessel, which carried 25 crew.

The attacks on the two ships bring to 75 the number of vessels hit in the tanker war that started last February when Iraq imposed a blockade on ships coming to Iran's main oil export terminal of Khark Island and ports to its north.

The last confirmed attack was on the 25,572-ton Liberian registered tanker *Neptunia*, which was set ablaze last Thursday by an Iraqi missile south of Khark Island.

Saudi Tanker Attacked

NC191847 Paris AFP in English 1829 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] London, Feb 19 (AFP) — A small Saudi oil tanker, the *Mohammed al-Bakri*, was attacked by a light aircraft in the southern Gulf today but was not hit, Lloyd's of London said, reporting the third attack on Gulf shipping in 24 hours.

The plane dropped a bomb on the 12,503-ton tanker as the vessel was heading for the Saudi Gulf port of Ra's Tannurah, Lloyd's information service said.

The bomb fell 500 metres (yards) to the ship's starboard and exploded without causing damage or casualties.

Yesterday, two vessels, including a fully-laden oil tanker, were damaged by missiles from unidentified warplanes in the southern Gulf, shipping sources said.

KUWAIT

Saudi Envoy Leaves After Delivering Fahd Message

LD201147 Kuwait KUNA in English 1013 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Kuwait, Feb 20 (KUNA) — A Saudi envoy left here Wednesday shortly after arrival and deliverance of a message from King Fahd to H.H. the amir on the outcome of the Saudi monarch's visit to the United States and talks with President Ronald Reagan. The envoy, the Municipal and Village Affairs Minister Ibrahim al-'Anqari, was welcomed at the airport and seen off one hour later by the Public Works Minister 'Abdallah Dukhayl al-Rushayd and representatives of the Amiri Diwan and the Foreign Ministry.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Reportedly Advocates Force Against Israel

LD201037 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0830 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] London, 20 Feb (KUNA) — *AL-TADAMUN*, which is published in Arabic here, said today that the address made by the Saudi monarch to Arab ambassadors in Washington during the king's recent visit to the United States, which the magazine published exclusively, gives the impression that King Fahd, through his meetings with U.S. officials, came out with the impression that armed confrontation against Israel is still an existing necessity. The magazine quoted him as indirectly saying to the Arab ambassadors that he is annoyed by the U.S. claim that Arab differences prevent any peaceful solution in the Middle East.

The Saudi monarch visited Washington last week and met twice with President Ronald Reagan and also met with his secretary of state, George Shultz, and other senior American officials.

AL-TADAMUN points out that King Fahd told the Arab ambassadors that the Egyptians tried direct negotiations, but we still see an Israeli occupation of some Egyptian territories. The magazine says that King Fahd, at his meeting with the Arab ambassadors, appeared annoyed as a result of what he heard from American officials and also from the excuses which referred to Arab differences as being a reason for the continuation of the Middle East problems.

King Fahd referred to what the U.S. secretary of state, George Shultz, said to some journalists to the effect that King Fahd told him: I have come as a friend and not as a negotiator. The king denied to the magazine having said that. He pointed out that he did not say such words to Shultz nor to anybody else. He added: I did not carry with me any message from any of my brothers — the leaders of the Arab states — nor from anyone else to the U.S. Administration. I came to explain our issue. Despite the differences in views the meeting was fruitful because we were able to inform the American administration about everything we wanted to inform it of regarding the necessity of liberating our land and about what the future of the Palestinian people should be, as the question of Palestine is our question in Saudi Arabia and we do not need to carry a message from anyone.

AL-TADAMUN says that it appears that the king came out from his meetings with American officials with the impression that the need to prepare for a confrontation with Israel is still on. The king repeated more than once during his meeting with the Arab ambassadors the slogan which the late President Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir raised: What has been taken away by force can only be retrieved by force.

King Fahd said that the unity of the Arab nation is a necessity and will inevitably be realized sooner or later. We are 150 millions and do not fear atomic bombs. They say that Israel has nuclear weapons. The Arab nation does not fear nuclear weapons.

The king went on to say, according to the magazine: In Arab universities there are Arab students whose number is equal to that of the Israeli population. We have Arab youth and Arab students at European universities whose number is equal to the number of Jews all over the world. When these youths and students complete their education they will inevitably return to their countries and establish the unity of their nation.

King Fahd wondered if Israel used nuclear weapons how many of us would die; 5,000, 10,000, 1 million? We are 150 million and we will regain our rights even if we have to use sticks; we are a nation which knows no fear because we have a right.

The king added: Like you I am an Arab citizen who feels what you feel. The people of the Kingdom are an indivisible part of the Arab people. If my brothers — the Arab rulers — decide on something the Kingdom will not hesitate to carry it out. We shall be bound by what is agreed upon. The question of Palestine tops the list of our problems — it is a question of a legitimate right which should be regained. He stressed that the Arab world will sooner or later be liberated and that it will sooner or later be united.

King Fahd confirmed to the Arab ambassadors that he supports Arab unity and said: "I wish to travel from Kuwait in the East to Mauritania in the West without there being barriers or borders. We have the positions, capabilities, and all the requirements for unity and the day will come when the Arabs will unite from the Gulf to the Atlantic." He disclosed a Saudi determination to convene the postponed Arab summit. He said in this respect: "The summit will be held on its fixed date, God willing, and we shall be pushing for its convening and we shall not spare any effort for this purpose." The Saudi king announced that there must be a complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon for justice and stability to be achieved for the Lebanese people and for the return of normality.

King Fahd added: "The Kingdom will not hesitate to make every effort for the return of Lebanon and the return of its stability and tranquility. We are with Lebanon and support it politically, diplomatically, economically, and morally. In the event of the continuation of the Lebanese crisis, it will become worse than the Palestine problem. We heard from the Americans that Arab differences do not allow for a separate peace initiative over Lebanon in particular and over the region in general and our answer to this is that these differences are superficial and should not be a cause for the occupation of our land." On the Iraqi-Iranian war King Fahd said: "Iraq and Iran are two Islamic countries and this war is nothing but a waste of resources and energies in both countries. We are Islamic countries: Why do we not get together and fight Israel?"

The Saudi king went on to say: "This war has tired both sides out and we are making every effort to end it and we should unite and work for the liberation of Palestine." On halting the war, the Saudi monarch said that President Saddam Husayn did not intend war and he said so in Al-Ta'if, and he is ready to end it and sit at the negotiating table, as we have heard many times."

Prince Bandar Returns From Baghdad, Amman

LD192222 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2110 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Riyadh, 19 Feb (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, his majesty's ambassador to the United States, arrived in Riyadh this evening after two visits today to both Baghdad and Amman, during which he conveyed two messages from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz to His Excellency Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and His Royal Highness Pince Hasan ibn Talal, the Jordanian viceroy.

On his arrival, his highness stated that the messages included the results of his majesty's visit to the United States and that he found great appreciation for what this visit has achieved and praise for his majesty's status and his wise leadership. His highness said that their views were similar.

PDRY

Further on Visit by DFLP's Al-Hawatimah

Meets YSP CC Secretary

GF161730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, reaffirmed our party's and country's stance toward the Palestinian issue and their aid and support to the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO in order to restore their firm national rights, that cannot be tampered with and that are represented in their right to self-determination, and to establish their independent state on their national soil.

This was affirmed during his meeting with Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP [Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine] Central Committee, in his office at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat today.

During the meeting, Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir stressed that the means to confront and foil the imperialist-Zionist plot, which is designed to liquidate the Palestinian issue and the unity of the Palestinian ranks, are the means to restore the PLO's unity on the basis of its anti-imperialist and anti-Zionist line and its adherence to the unity and the legitimacy of its representation of the Palestinian people and its avoidance of separation threats on the Palestinian arena.

On his part, Brother Nayif Hawatimah referred to the recent developments in the Palestinian arena and the liquidation attempts against the Palestinian issue in order to implement the Camp David Accords and its [word indistinct] on the basis of the Reagan plan which ignores the national rights of the Palestinian people.

He affirmed that the DFLP, the Palestinian Democratic Alliance, and all the Palestinian nationalists are confronting the liquidation plans and the unilateral solutions which the imperialist and Zionist forces are trying to achieve by using their agents in the region.

Received by Presidium Chairman

GF171626 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, received in his office at the YSP Central Committee Secretariat today Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the DFLP Central Committee.

During the meeting they discussed relations of struggle between the YSP and the DFLP and means of strengthening and expanding them. They also reviewed current Palestinian and Arab developments in view of the increasing political and military moves by the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance which aims to implement capitulatory solutions hostile to just Arab causes and rights, mainly the cause of the Arab Palestinian people.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad affirmed our country and party's firm stand in support of the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people to achieve their right to return to their homeland, to self-determination, and to establish an independent state on their national soil. He underlined the great significance at this critical stage of preserving the national Palestinian unity and giving priority to the main conflict with the imperialist-Zionist enemy over all other minor contradictions and disputes.

On the recent agreement with Jordan, the brother secretary general noted that this agreement will lead to more splits in the national Palestinian ranks and remove the PLO's role and status as a legitimate and sole representative for the Arab Palestinian people and will disavow their internationally- acknowledged legitimate and firm rights. He said this agreement is in line with liquidation and capitulatory plans, particularly the Reagan plan, and will weaken PLO relations with Arab and international forces of liberation and progress.

The brother secretary general reiterated that our country and party will make utmost efforts to heal the state of fragmentation and splits in the Palestinian arena through comprehensive dialogue between various factions of the Palestinian resistance to preserve PLO unity, in line with its national policy against imperialism and Zionism, and to firmly resist the Camp David accord and the Reagan plan.

On his part, Brother Nayif Hawatimah saluted the wise policy and principled stand of our party and people on all issues pertaining to the Arab liberation movement, at the top of which is the Arab Palestinian people's cause. He expressed gratitude for the PDRY's sincere efforts and perseverance to restore unity and cohesion on the Palestinian arena. He noted that the Aden-Algiers agreement, which was the fruit of these efforts, still draws importance and vitality in holding the comprehensive national dialogue to face all unitary, splitting, and capitulatory trends which, if they continue, will harm the Palestinian people's supreme interests and serve the conspiratorial plots of imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary forces.

Brother Nayif Hawatimah said: Abrogating the recent Amman agreement will pave the way for holding a new extraordinary PNC session to preserve PLO unity on the basis of the Aden-Algiers agreement.

The meeting was attended by Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and member of the YSP Central Committee; Brother Mahmud Najashi, member and deputy sectetary of the Central Committee; and Brother Abu Firas, DFLP representative in Aden.

Meets Al-'Attas

GF181538 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Brother Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, member of the Political Bureau and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office today Brother Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. During the meeting, Brother Hawatimah expressed his warm congratulations to Brother al-'Attas on his election as member of the Political Bureau of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers. Both sides reviewed the political developments in the Arab region. Brother Hawatimah lauded the PDRY's unlimited support for the Palestinian revolution and the Arab liberation movement. He wished our country more successes in the economic field.

Mubarak Discusses Economy, Press Freedom, Army Role

NC192123 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1610 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Suez, 19 Feb (MENA) — Following his field visits to the Ismailia Governorate today, President Mubarak made a 5-hour tour of the Suez Governorate. During his stay, he visited the 'Ataqah power station, the factories of the Arab Pharmaceutical Company, and the Egyptian-Iranian Textile Company (Miratex). At the end of his tour, the president met with the governorate's public figures and officials. During this meeting, the president answered questions on foreign and domestic affairs. The president noted that Egypt's 5-year plan guarantees the best use of our resources for the majority's benefit. Through planning, the president said, we can reduce economic suffering, and this is what we intend to do.

The president stressed that everyone should take part in implementing the development plan and using Egypt's resources. We are building new factories and power plants each day. Mubarak added that dozens of projects are also being inaugurated each day, and that we should encourage all viable investors to start new projects in order to increase production and provide more jobs in all professions, for engineers, laborers, doctors, lawyers, and everyone. The president said Egypt was moving ahead cautiously, in order not to stumble.

Mubarak also asserted that democracy and freedom of the press are essential to our people. He noted that Egypt is the region's largest bastion of freedom and democracy. I favor freedom of the press, despite the current excesses. Mubarak said that a great many facts come to light through freedom of the press.

Speaking on Egypt's foreign policy, Mubarak said: Our foreign policy seeks to serve the homeland and its production by seeing that Egypt's influence abroad advances development in Egypt through investments and investors, who come here with their funds.

Mubarak described the Armed Forces as the principal bulwark of any foreign policy decision. He praised the role played by the Armed Forces, and noted the importance of their continued strengthening, as they are Egypt's rampart and weight. He said Egypt was the first country to support the Palestinian cause and that Egypt exploits its relations with all countries to serve the Palestinians. He noted that Egypt's current weight and influence in the region have become the talk of foreign media, and added that Egypt hosts a new head of state each week. He affirmed that our foreign policy is clear and declared. Peace is both its goal and our means to build and to prosper. He asserted that Egypt's relations with all friendly countries that support us are honest and good. He also praised the opposition's current role in Egypt, as it raises constructive views on certain important issues.

Further Reportage on Italian President's Visit

Describes Talks With Mubarak

NC191012 Cairo Mena in Arabic 0948 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Luxor, 19 Feb (MENA) — Italian President Sandro Pertini has described his discussions with President Muhammad Husni Mubarak as very successful. He added that the discussions dealt with the Middle East problem, the Jordanian-Palestinian accord, and increasing and bolstering cooperation between Egypt and Italy.

The Italian president further said: I know President Mubarak well and I have met with him often. I admire President Mubarak very much because he is reasonable and sober and has a deep political sense. Moreover, he is wise.

Pertini went on to say that President Mubarak and His Majesty King Husayn are doing their utmost to solve the Middle East problem.

This came in statements made by President Pertini in response to reporters' questions when he visited Luxor city today.

Departs for Home

NC191350 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Luxor, 19 Feb (MENA) — Italian President Sandro Pertini and his accompanying delegation left Luxor airport for home this afternoon following a 1-day visit to the city at the end of his 4-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

FRG Economy Minister Continues Visit to Cairo

Holds Talks

LD181851 Hamburg DPA in German 1536 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 18 Feb (DPA) — German entrepreneurs in Egypt have asked Federal Minister of Economic Affairs Martin Bangemann, who has been in Cairo since Sunday evening, for a general increase in the Hermes credit insurance. This is due to the assent of the Federal Government to take over an export finance guarantee of more than DM2 billion for the construction of the first Egyptian nuclear power station worth DM3.5 billion, for which the Siemens subsidiary Kraftwerk Union AG (KWU) of Muelheim/Ruhr is competing. The U.S. Westinghouse concern and the French-Italian Framatome consortium are also competing. The Egyptian Government has made no decision yet on allocation of the contract.

Bangemann held talks today with President Husni Mubarak, Minister of Planning Kamal al-Janzuri, Minister of Industry Faraj 'Abd al-Wahhab, and Minister of Energy Mahir Abazah. He subsequently expressed hope that KWU will be awarded the contract. The minister for economic affairs stressed the need for revitalization of bilateral trade and for German investments on the Nile. In 1984 the volume of trade reached approximately DM4.5 billion (in 1983: DM3.9 billion), in which a 70 percent increase of Egyptian exports into the Federal Republic is notable. The Federal Government also gives economic and technical aid to the value of DM268 million a year.

As was confirmed by the German-Arab Chamber of Commerce in Cairo today, German company representatives whose total investments in Egypt total more than DM1 billion, fear a negative effect on the Egyptian quotas of the Hermes insurance.

According to information from the chamber the German private sector wants to ensure that the Hermes framework for Egypt of currently DM450 million a year is at least not reduced.

Received by 'Ali

NC191550 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1515 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo 19 February (MENA) — Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali received FRG Economics Minister Dr Martin Bangemann and his accompanying delegation at his office today. Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, minister of planning and international cooperation, was also present. After the meeting, 'Ali said they reviewed questions concerning economic cooperation, the volume of grants and soft loans between Egypt and the FRG, their allocation, the level of FRG investment, and the number of German projects in Egypt. They also discussed ways to increase the volume of bilateral trade with the goal of striking an equilibrium in the balance of payments between the two countries.

Meets With 'Abd Al-Majid

NC191530 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid met today with FRG Economics Minister Martin Bangemann. The FRG ambassador to Cairo and the Egyptian ambassador to the FRG were also present. During the meeting, bilateral relations, as well as ways to promote them in all areas, were reviewd. The Middle East situation was discussed in light of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and the reactions of various parties to it. Efforts being made to boost the peace process in the region were also touched upon.

'Abd al-Majid and the FRG minister discussed the EC's role in helping establish peace in the Middle East. The FRG minister praised Egypt's policy in favor of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, and expressed his country's support for it.

Jordanian Speaker Al-Fayiz Departs 19 Feb

NC191701 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1622 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 19 Feb (MENA) — 'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the Jordanian House of Representatives, and his accompanying delegation, left Cairo this afternoon after a 1-week visit to Egypt. He was seen off at Cairo Airport by Mahmud Dabbur, deputy speaker of the People's Assembly. In a predeparture statement, Al-Fayiz said he will call for the restoration of Egypt's full membership in the Arab Parliamentary Union at its conference scheduled to open in Sanaa on Tuesday. He will do this by intensifying the Jordanian delegation's efforts with its Arab counterparts at the conference in order to gather the Arab fold.

Al-Sharif Reveals Studies To Launch Satellite

NC200940 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Muscat, 20 Feb (MENA) — Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif has declared that Egypt is currently conducting studies to launch its first satellite in cooperation with Japan.

In an interview published today by the Omani paper *AL-WATAN*, he said that we have made great strides in this respect. He added that the Egyptian satellite will cover a very large area and will be used for various purposes including communications, geographical surveys, and other activities.

Al-Sharif said: We bless the launching of the Arab satellite as a step toward having a role, as Arabs, in outer space. He pointed out that Egypt at one time had a 10 percent involvement in this satellite, which was no small amount when compared to other participants. In 1970 Egypt also contributed a number of experts to the studies, contacts, and consultations concerning the launching of the Arab satellite.

Safwat al-Sharif said that Egypt has not lost and will not lose anything from the launching of the Arab satellite without its participation. He expressed his wish that the Arab countries would benefit greatly from this satellite.

Fatah Leaders To Visit Cairo in Late February

NC172202 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2143 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Cairo, 17 Feb (MENA) — The weekly paper *MAYU* reports that some Fatah leaders are expected to arrive in Cairo before the end of this month.

In tomorrow's edition, the paper states that the object of the Fatah leaders' visit is to hold talks with Egyptian officials before President Husni Mubarak's trip to Washington.

AL-JUMHURIYAH Criticizes U.S. Position on PLO

PM151652 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 12 Feb 85 p 12

[Kamil Zuhayri article: "Through the Keyhole"]

[Excerpts] Yasir 'Arafat is now in Jordan. Before that he was in Algeria, and earlier he was in Iraq, all within a few days. While in Iraq he announced that Iraq had supplied a Palestinian battalion with howitzers, armored cars, and missile launchers. U.S. State Department spokesman Edward Djerejian promptly criticized Iraq and asserted that this "would not lead the PLO to a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict."

That rash U.S. statement confirms the U.S. attitude to the PLO and its cause and also confirms U.S. adherence to a certain principle. The United States does not want to see a Palestinian organization for the liberation of Palestine. It wants an organization to sign a document providing for the final surrender of Palestine including the Palestinian territory forcibly occupied by Israel in 1967 and everything west of the Jordan River so that a greater Israel from the river to the sea could become a reality.

The United States insists on that principle. It wants neither a moderate PLO nor an extremist PLO. However moderate Yasir 'Arafat is seen to be or however moderate he tends to be — which of course he is — the United States does not want him, whether

he is moderate or radical, because Israel does not want him. This has been a U.S. comitment since Kissinger.

The United States wants an Israel armed to the teeth with modern, sophisticated, and advanced weapons. This is a U.S. commitment. The United States has given Israel $28 billion in aid two-thirds of which were military. We hear about U.S.-Israeli strategic cooperation. The United States does not object to Israel's use of new and banned weapons in Lebanon. It did not oppose the use of cluster and phosphorus bombs. In fact it considers Lebanon to be a range for testing its new weapons. The United States supports Israel militarily as well as politically, andit sees the Palestinians, that is the PLO and its cause, through Israeli eyes. It is difficult to distinguish U.S. statements from Israeli. Their policies, plans, and attitudes are no different whether read in Hebrew or in English.

It is all right for Israel to have all kinds of modern, advanced, and even internationally banned weapons but the Palestinians are not allowed to have light or defensive weapons. That is because the United States and Israel are allies who want neither a moderate PLO nor a radical one. They just want an organization to sign a final contract surrendering Palestine to Israel. They call it a full and comprehensive settlement while others call it a possible settlement.

INA Claims Vessel Hit by 'Iranian Missile'

JN191315 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0930 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 19 Feb (INA) — The United Arab Shipping Company says that the container ship *Al-Manakh*, hit by an Iranian missile in Arab Gulf waters yesterday, arrived in Rashid port in Dubayy today. WAKH cited these sources as saying that preliminary information indicates that 1 of the 25-member Japanese crew is dead. The sources added that no other information is available because radio and telex contacts with the 32,534-ton vessel were disrupted as a result of the damages. The sources added that experts from the shipping company were on their way to the vessel today in order to ascertain damages. The container ship *Al-Manakh*, owned by the United Arab Shipping Company, had been hit by a missile near the Al-Bakush oil field, 135 km north of Abu Dhabi. The United Arab Shipping Company is owned by the UAE, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, and Iraq.

Armed Forces Command Issues Communique No 1,747

JN191719 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Communique No 1,747 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 19 February 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate.

With the determination of the faithful men who are stationed in every position of the battlefield, our valiant forces continued their combat activities against the forces of injustice and aggression in defense of great Iraq and its people's safety and security. The following is a roundup of the activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. For the 2d successive day, the valiant Sky Hawks continued to launch successful raids against enemy positions, troop concentrations, and vehicles in the operational sector east of Basra, dealing destructive blows to Iran's defeated forces and inflicting massive losses in personnel and equipment. The Sky Hawks returned safely with their aircraft after carrying out 56 combat missions.

2. With perfect planning and performance, the brave artillery men directed their fire against several enemy targets opposite our forward units in the operational sector east of Basra, hitting 17 targets and inflicting losses in men and equipment. Elsewhere in the same sector, our tanks destroyed five infantry positions and killed their occupants. They also destroyed one enemy observation post.

3. With high preparedness, our forward units continued to engage enemy positions and movements by troops and vehicles in the central sector of the operational theater. With concentrated and effective mortar and other fire, our units destroyed six infantry positions and killed their occupants. They also killed or wounded several other enemy troops.

4. A group of heroic fighters from one of our forward units in the operational sector east of Basra pounded and completely destroyed one enemy observation post, killing its occupants.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 19 February 1985

President Receives Saudi Envoy, Fahd Message

JN191316 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1217 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received an oral message from Saudi King Fahd ibn Abd al-'Aziz on bilateral relations, the Arab situation in general, and the results of the Saudi king's visit to the United States.

Prince Bandar ibn Sultan conveyed the message when President Saddam Husayn received him here today. The president's secretary and the Saudi ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

The Saudi king's special envoy arrived in Baghdad earlier today.

Jordanian Foreign Minister Visits Baghdad

Received by President

JN191340 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1300 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has received an oral message from Jordan's King Husayn, dealing with bilateral relations and the Arab situation. Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri conveyed the message to the president when the latter received him here today.

Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the president's secretary; and the Jordanian ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

The Jordanian envoy arrived here last night.

Departs 20 Feb

JN201006 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0955 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Feb (INA) — Tahir al-Masri, Jordanian foreign minister and King Husayn's personal envoy to President Saddam Husayn, left Baghdad at dawn today for Jordan after conveying an oral message to President Saddam Husayn from King Husayn. The message deals with the fraternal relations between the two countries and the current Arab situation.

Thai Commerce Minister Conducts Visit to Baghdad

Meets With Ramadan

JN161542 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1528 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 16 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC memebr and first deputy prime minister, received Koson Krairoek, the Thai minister of commerce, and his delegation here today. They discussed bilateral relations and means of expanding economic and trade cooperation in the two peoples' interest. The Thai ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Departs 17 Feb

JN171047 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0950 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 17 Feb (INA) — Thai Commerce Minister KosonKrairoek and the delegation accompanying him left Baghdad today following a 3-day visit. During his visit, Koson Krairoek met with officials here and discussed ways to bolster economic and technical cooperation between the two countries to serve their common interests.

Mauritanian Minister Minnih Conducts Visit

Arrives in Baghdad

JN180917 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian President Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed Taya's envoy to President Saddam Husayn and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation [title as heard], arrived in Baghdad last night on a visit to Iraq. Ahmed Ould Minnih will deliver a message to President Saddam Husayn from the Mauritanian president on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

The Mauritanian official was welcomed on arrival by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad.

Delivers Message to President

JN181105 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1050 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Feb (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received a message from Mauritanian President Maayouia Ould Sid Ahmed here today. The message deals with bilateral relations and was delivered by Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation [title as heard], when President Saddam Husayn received him this morning. The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; the president's secretary; and Moustafa Ould el-Sheikh, the Mauritanian president's adviser.

Received by Ramadan

JN181536 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1522 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Feb (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, received Ahmed Ould Minnih, Mauritanian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation [title as heard], here today. They reviewed means of bolstering relations between the two fraternal countries in line with pan-Arab interests. The Mauritanian ambassador in Baghdad attended the meeting.

Meets With 'Aziz

JN181844 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Baghdad, 18 Feb (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today met with Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Ould Minnih, member of the Military Committee for National Salvation and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation in Mauritania [title as heard]. The situation in the Arab region and bilateral relations were reviewed during the meeting. Earlier today, the Mauritanian envoy handed a written message to President Saddam Husayn from the Mauritanian president.

Briefs

Swiss Ambassador Ends Term—RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahimreceived here today Marcel Disler, Swiss ambassador in Baghdad, on the occasion of the end of his term of office. [Text] [*Baghdad INA in Arabic 0745 GMT 19 Feb 85 JN*]

Saudi Prince Bandar Arrives With Fahd Message

JN191414 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — His Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the envoy of His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudi Arabia, arrived in Amman this afternoon on a brief visit to Jordan to convey a message to His Majesty King Husayn from his brother King Fahd on the results of his talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

He was received by Raja'i al-Dajani, secretary general of the Royal Hashemite Court; the Saudi ambassador in Amman; and the Saudi Embassy staff.

Delivers Message, Departs

JN191705 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received this afternoon at the Royal Hashemite Court His Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, who conveyed a message for His Majesty King Husayn from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz of Saudia Arabia, dealing with his majesty's talks with President Ronald Reagan. Prince Bandar left Amman this evening.

Foreign Minister Receives U.S. Guest 18 February

JN181445 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Amman — Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri received Harold Saunders, former assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, here at noon today. Saunders arrived in Amman today on a 3-day visit to Jordan, during which he will meet with a number of officials to acquaint himself with developments in the region.

House Speaker 'Akif Al-Fayiz Returns From Egypt

JN191907 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] House of Representatives Speaker 'Akif al-Fayiz and the parliamentary delegation accompanying him returned to Amman this evening following a weeklong visit to the Arab Reublic of Egypt, during which he met with President Husni Mubarak and held talks with senior Egyptian officials. Our correspondent Salim 'Ali Dhiyab held the following interview with Al-Fayiz:

[Begin recording] [Dhiyab] Mr Speaker, what are your impressions of this visit and what is its importance for strengthening Egyptian-Jordanian relations?

[Al-Fayiz] I and my brothers, the members of the House of Representatives, paid a visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt at the invitation of Egyptian National Assembly Speaker Brother Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub. During this visit we met with Egyptian leaders, headed by President Husni Mubarak. We also held talks with our brothers in the Egyptian National Assembly, as well as with President Mubarak on the current situation in the region.

[Dhiyab] Mr Speaker, will you please brief us on the reaction of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement in Egyptian popular and official circles?

[Al-Fayiz] In fact, we were warmly welcomed on all levels, on the official and popular levels. We were also welcomed by everyone we met. They expressed their pleasure at the agreement reached by the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the PLO. We hope that Almighty God will grant success to the Arab leaders in achieving their objectives that will enable them to regain the usurped land, God willing. [end recording]

The delegation was received by a number of members of the House of Representatives and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

Envoy to Bahrain Views Agreement With PLO

GF191347 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 19 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] Ahmad Hindawi, Jordanian ambassador to Bahrain, made a statement to *AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ* on the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement. He said that after continuous talks the Jordanian monarch, King Husayn, and Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on 11 February reached a framework for joint political action to achieve the right settlement of the Palestinian issue.

This framework stems from legitimate international principles, the Fes summit resolution, UN resolutions on the Palestinian issue, and the joint understanding for building distinctive relations between the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

He said that this framework also stems from the principles of land in return for peace, the Palestinian people's right to self-determination according to the confederation to be established between Jordan and Palestine, the solution of the refugees issue according to UN resolutions, and the settlement of the Palestinian issue within the framework of an international conference with participation by a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

AL-DUSTUR Criticizes Shamir, Sharon Stand on Golan

JN151203 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 Feb 85 pp 1, 16

[Editorial: "Israel Is Closing The Doors"]

[Text] Two days ago and, perhaps, under pressure from His Majesty King Fahd, the United States tried to correct the deficiency in President Reagan's September 1982 initiative. It issued a statement calling on Syria and Israel to hold negotiations on the Golan Heights. In spite of the fact that this was only a tardy reaffirmation by the United States that it considers the Syrian heights an occupied territory whose future must be determined in Syrian-Israeli negotiations, this statement triggered the

anger of the occupation authorities. Enemy Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir announced at a meeting of insurance companies that the Golan Heights are an indivisible part of Israel and that the U.S. officials' statements cannot change this fact. As for Ariel Sharon, minister of industry and trade, he replied to the U.S. statement in his arrogant manner. He immediately visited the occupied heights and informed their Jewish settlers of his decision to expand settlement operations on the heights, thereby practically closing the door on any negotiations aimed at returning these heights to Syria in the future.

This angry Israeli stand toward the occupied Golan Heights is an example of the intransigent stands Israel will adopt toward any move or initiative any side proposes for solving the Arab-Israeli dispute in a peaceful and just manner.

Perhaps the Israeli reaction in the wake of last Monday's announcement of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement on a joint action clearly indicates the impossibility of any harmony between the minimum Arab demands and Israel's ambitions.

Israel responded to the announcement of the agreement by reiterating its previous stands based on its refusal to negotiate with the PLO, its rejection of the idea of an international conference, and its refusal to recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination and to establish an independent state.

Despite its cautious welcome of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, the declared U.S. stand toward it is not essentially much different from Israel's stand. Washington is still talking about the need for direct negotiations and rejects the idea of an international conference. The United States also refuses to talk to the PLO and to have it participate in negotiations, unless the PLO frankly announces its prior recognition of Israel's right to exist.

Therefore, the Israeli and U.S. reactions to the Arab concept of a just, peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, in spite of some differences on details, essentially stem from one philosophy, which will not lead to the desired peace unless the Arab side accepts the conditions Israel is imposing for the negotiations.

Therefore, Arab attempts to persuade Washington to play an active, constructive, and unbiased role in solving the Arab- Israeli conflict will be difficult and exhausting. And, the outcome of such attempts will not be guaranteed.

JORDAN TIMES Notes Low Money Supply Growth

JN170805 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 17 Feb 85 p 4

[Article by Fahd Fanik: "Monetary Indicators Take a Plunge"]

[Text] Money Supply (M1) remained stable during 1984, ending at JD878.4 million against JD869.4 million a year ago — a growth of only one per cent. This is Jordan's lowest annual rate of money-supply growth on record since the establishment of the Central Bank twenty years ago.

Both components of the money-supply were stagnant in 1984: Issued currency in circulation on the one hand grew by 2.6 per cent, the lowest in twelve years; demand deposits on the other hand dropped by 1.6 per cent, an unusual phenomenon which during 20 years occurred only in 1967 and 1970.

Factors affecting money-supply were more dynamic and revealing: On the positive side, i.e. factors contributing to the increase in money-supply, we find the continued commercial banking expansion.

Credit extended to the private sector reflected a net increase of JD161 million, and to the public sector around JD40 million (net of increase in public deposits). Other miscellaneous positive items contributed a net amount of JD69 million, which make a total of JD270 million.

These new funds were suppressed by two major factors:

(1) An increase of time deposits (quasi-money) to the extent of JD133.5 million, the second largest growth in time deposits and saving accounts in 20 years;

(2) A decrease in foreign assets (net of non-resident accounts) of JD144.5 million, which is the worst annual drop in foreign exchange net position on record.

It is evident that though money-supply remained almost the same, yet factors affecting money-supply swung to the extremes in opposite directions, which may be a manifestation of the adjustments taking place in the economic and monetary behavior at grassroots level.

Gold and foreign exchange reserves at the end of 1984 stood at JD608.7 million, a drop of JD76 million. This is the second time it happens in 12 years, and the largest in its scale.

According to the Central Bank monthly statistical bulletin, Jordan used its gold tranche position in the International Monetary Fund (IMF) during 1984 which is an automatic facility available to IMF members to compensate reduction of foreign exchange earnings.

Gold and foreign exchange reserves as defined by the Central Bank of Jordan do not include non-transferable foreign currencies and claims on other countries under bilateral payment arrangements (total JD134.1 million), but the reserves are not reduced by nonresident accounts and offshore deposits (total JD315.6 million). The so-called non-resident accounts actually include residents' deposits in foreign currencies with Jordanian banks, which further complicates the picture and renders the arrival at the net foreign reserves difficult.

Despite the plunge in the main monetary indicators, yet commercial banks (and the Housing Bank) managed to grow at 14.6 per cent during 1984, which is a handsome growth in the circumstances.

Bank's deposits also grew at 14.6 per cent to reach JD1.6 billion. Private deposits in local currency increased at 13 per cent and in foreign currencies at 28 per cent.

Complaints about lack of liquidity and banking system tightness are obviously unfounded. Outstanding commercial credit increased in 1984 by 15 per cent to reach D1185 million. Every sector in the economy managed to obtain more financing. The only exception was tourism, hotels and restuarants' sector which descreased by 7.5. per cent to stand at JD23.7 million, not a substantial amount anyway.

The lion's share of new banking facilities extended in 1984 was in favour of mining where credit grew at 33.6 per cent, municipalities and public corporations — 30 per cent, industry — 20.2 per cent, construction — 19.4 per cent, transportation — 15.8 per cent.

For a change, the least lucky was the general commerce and trade sector which obtained seven per cent extra facilities.

In general, the monetary indicators took a plunge in 1984, yet economic activities were able to obtain reasonable financing. Banks were able to grow at a relatively high rate.

The only area where caution could not be overemphasised is the external economy, especially foreign reserves.

More banking expansion in extending credit is translated into larger deficit in foreign reserves.

Al-Jumayyil Thanks Fahd for Support

NC191755 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] President al-Jumayyil today thanked King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for taking the initiative in raising the question of Lebanon during his recent talks in Washington with President Reagan. The president told the Saudi monarch in a special message today that by giving priority to the Middle East situation, he had underlined the significance of the Lebanese crisis on the regional and international levels. The president expressed appreciation for the efforts of King Fahd for the liberation, unification, and rebuilding of Lebanon. He stressed that Saudi support was vital in view of the position of Saudi Arabia in the Arab and Islamic worlds and on the international scene.

President al-Jumayyil also conveyed the appreciation of the Lebanese people for the contribution of the Saudi king to the overall efforts to liberate and rebuild Lebanon.

Franjiyah Reiterates Call for Government To Resign

NC191205 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1100 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] At the outset of his weekly news conference today, [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah congratulated the people of Sidon and its leaders on their magnificent victory. He said: I glorify the national resistance, which alone has the credit and which represents the honor and dignity of the Lebanese. I also invoke mercy upon our pious martyrs who sacrificed their lives to become an example for the liberation of all their sacred land.

He added: Lebanon, in all its factions and communities, joins the valiant sons of Sidon and its area in their joy of liberation, which they realized through their sacrifices and the guidance of the noble dignitaries of Sidon. From the furthest north, I greet the sons of Sidon and their brave leaders and hail the heroic national resistance.

Franjiyah further said: It doesn't harm valiant Sidon that those who don't believe in the ability of our struggling people and in the outstanding ability of the resistance should rush to Sidon to exploit the victory achieved in it, and try to use this great national achievement to cover up their failure. All the Lebanese know who has the credit for the liberation. The Lebanese citizen, who is famous for his intelligence and farsightedness, cannot be deceived by these lies and put up actions.

Franjiyah appealed to all Lebanese in general, to the southerners in particular, and to the sons of Sidon especially, to be watchful day and night to prevent any subversive action which Israel might seek to carry out through its agents to undermine this victory and to intimidate the other cities still occupied by the Israeli enemy.

Referring to Walid Junblatt's statement violently attacking the government, Franjiyah said: It is known that Walid Bey is very frank and courageous. He says what he believes. Instead of opening its trumpets against him, the government should have met and issued a statement exonerating itself from the charges in which all the Lebanese believe.

Franjiyah renewed his demand for the resignation of the government, saying: If a reward were to be awarded to Sidon, we would have wished that one of its sons should head the government. There are many among the sons of this heroic city who have the experience. I mention in particular [former] Minister Nabih al-Bizri.

Franjiyah added: I hope that the lion's share will go to the pious son of Sidon, friend Rafiq al-Hariri who is giving without [word indsitinct].

Regarding the removal of Al-Barbarah barrier, Franjiyah reiterated what he said during his previous conference: That it is necessary to provide guarantees to those traveling from Tripoli to Beirut, and that any talk about the barrier's removal before providing guarantees is passing the time.

Druze Shaykh Urges Al-Jumayyil To Step Down

NC191926 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] In a press statement today, His Eminence Shaykh Muhammad Abu Shaqra, shaykh of the Druze sect, said that the president of the Republic has not proven he is worthy [ahlan] to be president or to rule Lebanon. It is now apparent that he should resign, so Lebanon may take care of its affairs and rise. It was during his era that Lebanon's buildings, economy, and security were destroyed.

Shaykh Abu Shaqra described the liberation of Sidon and its surrounding areas as a good, but insufficient, step. The joy which accompanied this liberation is incomplete, and cannot make up for the grave losses suffered by the south and the rest of Lebanon in all fields. He asked: Why have those who were the cause of Lebanon's invasion and ordeal had the impertinence to exploit Sidon's liberation? They should stop this, and let Lebanon live free of their treason, conspiracies, plotting, rule, and domination.

Karami Denies Imminent Cabinet Reshuffle

NC191320 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1255 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Beirut, 19 Feb (MENA) — Lebanese Prime Minister Rashid Karami has denied rumors about a Cabinet reshuffle in the near future. He affirmed that the current government can achieve many goals, including the liberation of Lebanon if it can secure its unity. We cannot speculate how harmonious and effective a new cabinet will be, if we took the risk of forming one.

In a a statement today, Karami pointed to Israel's claims and rumors about massacres and fighting in the areas in southern Lebanon from which it will withdraw. He said that these rumors have been proven to be false and that the world has realized the facts and the falsity of Israeli rumors. Karami asserted that comprehensive Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon will occur shortly. He pointed out that his optimism over the liberation of territory since he came to power has begun with the Israeli withdrawal from Sidon and adjacent areas, despite the pessimists' claims.

PSP 'Source' on Junblatt Cabinet Attendance

NC191330 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] To correct reports carried by some information media concerning Walid Junblatt's attendance at Cabinet sessions when the political file is opened, a responsible Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] source made the following statement:

1. The absence of Walid Junblatt from Cabinet sessions is not a coincidence, but is due to reasons which have been conveyed repeatedly to the regime and for which it is responsible. These reasons are still valid and therefore prompt Walid Junblatt to maintain his position.

2. To clarify what has been published in some newspapers, the PSP leader will not attend the Cabinet sessions until the legislative decrees which consecrated political and administrative hegemony over the state and its institutions are abolished. He also links his attendance at the Cabinet sessions with serious efforts to implement the government policy statement, on which basis he participated in the government, within 1 month.

French Observers Position Attacked; Commander Killed

4 Reported Missing

NC200656 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A group of Junblatt followers attacked a French observers position on Tallat al-Mudabbir in Al-Ashuwayfat before midnight last night. They killed the position's commander, Major (Paul Rhodes). The fate of four other observers is not yet known as communication with the position was cut off after the incident. Contacts are underway between the French and the Socialist Progressive Party [PSP] to remove the officer's body and to discover the fate of his colleagues.

Spokesman Denies Observers Missing

NC201018 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A spokesman for the French observers has explained the incident that caused the death of Major (Paul Rhodes). He said: At 2330 on the night of 19 February 1985, Major (Paul Rhodes), commander of the French observers in Al-Shuwayfat, was fatally hit by machinegun fire from unidentified gunmen. The other members of the team continue to perform their duty as usual contrary to reports that they are missing.

PSP Investigating Attack

NC201340 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] A security source from the PSP categorically denied reports by the Phalangist information media concerning the detention of French observers in Al-Shuwayfat. The source added that the PSP security department has initiated an investigation to discover the causes of the incident which led to the death of Major (Paul Rhodes) and to punish the person who carried out the deed. The security source said that the murder of the French observer is an act directed against the PSP. He emphasized that military officials in the Al-Shuwayfat area had spent last night with the French observers, who are continuing their duties at their post.

The Quadripartite Committee met at the invitation of Colonel Jean Susini, the commander of the French observers in Lebanon. The meeting was attended by Abu Iyad, the PSP commander of the western coastal area. Colonel Susini notified the conferees of the French Government's request to abolish the observers post in Al-Shuwayfat. Colonel Susini requested the PSP to help him in removing the observers' belongings from the area. Abu Iyad confirmed to Colonel Susini that investigation into the incident is continuing, and agreed with him to hold a meeting at the observers post in Al-Shuwayfat at 1600 today to continue this investigation.

Karamah Reacts To Recent Events in Sidon

NC191125 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Phalange Party leader Dr Elie Karamah said that the Lebanese Front today discussed the events that occurred in Sidon yesterday, following the tremendous welcome accorded to the president and prime minister.

Dr Karamah added that the front considers yesterday's events to be a reaction by those who seek to destroy Lebanon. This reaction regrettably represents an extremely religious trend that seeks to obliterate the national accord.

The Front, Dr Karamah said, notes that the burning of the Lebanese flag and the raising of alien flags and posters belonging to non-Lebanese leaders is a serious phenomenon that is bound to produce grave consequences. He added: We will avoid any religious or sectarian reaction. However, we call on Lebanese leaders to adopt a clear-cut and candid stand on the events. In this way they can safeguard the homeland and the unity of ranks as well as consolidate the phenomenon that emerged as a result of the tremendous popular welcome accorded to the president and prime minister in Sidon.

Karamah expressed the hope that this phenomenon would prevail throughout the land for the sake of Lebanon's ultimate interests and future as a homeland for freedom and dignity.

Hezbollah Statement on Sidon Demonstration

NC192202 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Hezbollah issued a statement today on the actions of the demonstrators who marched to Sidon yesterday. According to the statement, the events that took place after the demonstration ended and after the crowd dispersed are not acceptable to Hezbollah due to the resulting property damage.

The statement said Hezbollah leaders made great efforts to contain these events to avoid tarnishing a great occasion. They were largely successful.

Hezbollah, the statement added, will not tolerate any attempt to use such minor incidents in cheap media campaigns. We call on all Muslims to judge the great political implications of this massive Muslim demonstration favorably. The statement concluded: We confirm that the weapons we used to fight the Zionists in Sidon will remain pointed at those who negotiated with the enemy and who, thanks to the occupation, have come to power in this country.

Karami Seeks Government Reactivation in South
NC191616 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Ways of reactivating government departments in the south following the liberation of Sidon and its surroundings were discussed today by Prime Minister Rashid Karami as part of the government's efforts to meet the pressing needs of the inhabitants of the area who suffered under Israeli occupation for more than 2 years.

The prime minister met with Cabinet Secretary General Shafiq Munayminah to discuss steps to be taken to revive government departments in the Sidon area.

Karami met with the head of the Council for Development and Reconstruction, Malik Salam, who reported on the results of his visit to Damascus yesterday and his meeting with President al-Asad.

Al-Huss Meets With Italian, Polish Officials
NC191747 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Education and Labor Minister Dr Salim al-Huss met with senior aides today to discuss the findings of the committee responsible for studying ways of organizing the work of foreigners in the country. The committee is to hold a meeting tomorrow.

Later in the morning, Minister Al-Huss met with the Italian charge d'affaires in Lebanon, who stated after the meeting that discussions had centered on conditions in Lebanon with an emphasis on developments in the south.

The education minister later received the governor of the Polish Central Bank and members of the Polish delegation currently visiting the country. The Polish Central Bank governor later stated that talks had focused on the Lebanese economic situation and on a wide range of banking affairs within the context of Lebanese-Polish economic cooperation.

Minister al-Huss then met with former Minister Marwan Hamadah, a key aide of Minister Walid Junblatt, to discuss political developments in view of the meetings held in Damascus yesterday. Mr Hamadah described the Damascus talks as very useful, and said that Minister Junblatt would attend Cabinet meetings only within the context outlined by Minister al-Huss yesterday.

In a statement on the situation in Sidon, Minister al-Huss paid tribute to the Sidon inhabitants and spoke highly of their patriotism and their true commitment to Lebanon. He expressed hope that the appearance of armed men in public yesterday would not become a recurring feature.

Army's 13th Battalion Arrives in Sidon
NC191139 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The Army's 13th Battalion arrived in Sidon at 1230 to support the Army forces and to assume responsibility for preserving security if Israel effects the second phase of withdrawal.

Meanwhile, the Military Council met today under the Army commander and discussed the plan pertaining to the reopening of the Beirut-Damascus road and the possibility of reinforcing Army forces in the Sidon area.

Al-Husayni Departs for Visit to Damascus
NC200742 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Husayn al-Husayni, speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, left Beirut for Damascus by land a short while ago. He is leading a parliamentary delegation to congratulate Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on his reelection and to hold talks with Syrian officials about conditions in Lebanon.

Airport Security Commander Reportedly Resigns
NC191901 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] According to informed sources, Staff Brigadier General Yasin Suwayd, commander of the Airport Security Force, has officially submitted his written resignation to Prime Minister Rashid Karami and Acting Interior Minister Joseph Skaf, and has asked them to accept it. The reasons for his action are not known.

Al-Asad Receives Saudi Envoy, King's Message

JN171126 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador in Washington and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz' personal envoy, at 1310 today.

Saudi Ambassador in Damascus 'Abdallah al-Fadl attended the meeting. Prince Bandar conveyed to the president a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Expresses 'Satisfaction' With Message

JN171805 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi ambassador in Washington and King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz' personal envoy, at 1310 today. Prince Bandar conveyed a message from King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz dealing with his visit to the United States and the talks that took place during this visit.

The president gave Prince Bandar ibn Sultan a reply message in which he expressed his satisfaction with King Fahd's message and adherence to Arab unanimity and the Fes summit resolution.

Honecker Congratulates Al-Asad on Reelection

JN151545 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Feb 85

["Text" of congratulatory cable from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and chairman of the GDR Council of State, to President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of his reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic — date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of your reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic, I would like to convey to you, dear Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, my greetings, as well as the warm congratulations of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Council of State, and the GDR people.

By this demonstration, the Syrian people have reaffirmed their determination to follow your experienced leadership in defending their national interests against the hostile intrigues of imperialism by adopting the policy of peaceful independent development and social progress.

I assure you that the German Democratic Republic will continue to do everything that promotes the bonds of traditional friendship and useful reciprocal cooperation with the Syrian Arab Republic. Thus, we contribute to guaranteeing world peace, in addition to a comprehensive and just settlement of the Middle East issue.

Dear Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, please accept my best wishes of good health, success, prosperity, and progress for the friendly Syrian people.

Karmal Congratulates Al-Asad on Reelection

JN151911 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 15 Feb 85

["Text" of congratulatory cable from Babrak Karmal, Afghan president and head of the Revolutionary Council, to President Hafiz al-Asad on the occasion of his reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic — date not given]

[Text] On the happy occasion of your reelection as president of the Syrian Arab Republic, it gives me great pleasure to convey to Your Excellency, on behalf of the Revolutionary Council, government, and people of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, and in my own name, our greetings and warm congratulations.

Your persistent efforts, undoubtedly, played an important role in Syria's ever-increasing development, in the fraternal Syrian people's prosperity, and in the process of finding a just and durable solution to the Middle East problem. I am confident that the close fraternal relations of friendship and cooperation that exists between our two countries will continue to develop and expand in the interest of our two peoples and in the interest of entrenching peace and progress all over the world. Please accept my best wishes of happiness and of achieving greater success in your noble mission.

Al-Asad Awards Order of Merit to 'Struggler'

JN181056 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1015 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1100 today President Hafiz al-Asad received struggler Shakib Abu Jabal, who has spent many years in Israeli enemy prisons. The president awarded him the Order of Merit, excellent class, in appreciation of his struggle and sacrifices. The president commended the struggle of the Golan citizens and their continued resistance to occupation, as well as their natural adherence to their homeland and Syrian Arab identity.

Al-Asad Receives Lebanon's Al-Sulh, Salam

JN181229 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1430 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received Rashid al-Sulh, former Lebanese prime minister, and Malik Salam, former Lebanese minister and chairman of the Lebanese Construction Council. The talks revolved around the situation in the Lebanese arena.

Reportage on Visit by CSSR Foreign Trade Minister

Arrives in Damascus

JN150636 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Bohumil Urban arrived in Damascus this evening at the head of a delegation on a 5-day

visit to Syria. In a statement to a SANA correspondent, Urban expressed pleasure at visiting Syria. He indicated that this visit is aimed at holding meetings and talks with Syrian officials on bolstering the strong ties of friendship between the two friendly countries in the interest of the Syrian and Czechoslovak peoples.

Confers With Prime Minister

JN161131 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Bohumil Urban at 1300 today.

The talks revolved around the developing relations between the two friendly countries, the expanding cooperation between them in political, economic, scientific, and technical spheres, and the steps to consolidate the march of Arab Syrian-CSSR friendship.

Meets With State Minister

JN161526 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1330 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 16 Feb (SANA) — Dr Kamal Sharaf, minister of state for planning affairs, today received CSSR Foreign Trade Minister Bohumil Urban and reviewed with him Syrian-CSSR cooperation on all levels, in accordance with what was agreed upon within the framework of the fourth session of the Syrian-CSSR committee for economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. During the meeting it was stressed that steps are needed to expand economic cooperation and increase trade exchange between the two countries. It was also agreed to sign a barter agreement to exchange commodities and to have the CSSR participate in some Syrian development projects.

Talks With Defense Minister

JN181357 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At noon today General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, received CSSR External Trade Minister Bohumil Urban who is currently visiting the country.

The talks revolved around the current situation and all issues of common concern to the two countries.

Meets With Industry Minister

JN181431 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1325 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Feb (SANA) — Industry Minister Mahmud Qaddur received here today CSSR External Trade Minister Bohumil Urban and the accompanying delegation currently visiting Syria. They reviewed industrial cooperation between the two countries, particularly the exchange of expertise in accordance with the agreement signed with the Czechoslovak side.

Confers With Oil Minister

JN181508 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1329 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Feb (SANA) — Dr Ghazi Durubi, oil and mineral wealth minister, received CSSR External Trade Minister Bohumil Urban and his accompanying delegation here today. The two sides reviewed cooperation between the two countries, particularly in the field of oil refining. The Czechoslovak minister expressed his country's readiness to contribute toward the implementation of all the projects the ministry intends to establish in the fields of oil and mineral wealth.

Leaves After Signing Agreement

JN191427 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 19 Feb (SANA) — CSSR External Trade Minister Bohumil Urban left Damascus today after a 1-week visit to Syria during which he signed an agreement on bilateral trade and economic exchange. It has been learned that the delegation accompanying Urban will leave Damascus on Thursday after completing talks which are being held with a number of Syrian officials.

Reportage on Visit by Arab League's Chedli Klibi

Arrives, Makes Statement

JN172051 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Damascus this evening on a 3-day visit to Syria. He was received at the airport by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' and the head of the Arab homeland section at the Foreign Ministry.

In an arrival statement to the SANA correspondent, Klibi expressed his pleasure at visiting Syria amid popular celebrations of the reelection of President Hafiz al-Asad. He said: The Syrian Arab people have the right to be proud of the leadership that has given them the longest period of stability since independence. During this period efforts were devoted to construction, development, and progress in a spirit of dignity and pride. Klibi added: I am pleased to meet with President Hafiz al-Asad to reiterate to him my congratulations on the dear trust that the Syrian people have placed in him. The Syrian people have been making great sacrifices in the struggle for the Arab causes, headed by our central cause.

Klibi pointed out that his visit to Syria comes within consultations with President Hafiz al-Asad and Syrian officials on the most important Arab issues. Klibi said: From Syria, the bastion of steadfasness, I send greetings of pride and admiration to the Lebanese national resistance and the entire Lebanese people on the liberation of the capital of southern Lebanon, Sidon.

Klibi affirmed that this historic victory against the forces of invasion and oppression is proof that the Lebanese people, through their solidarity and cohesion and by preserving their unity, can realize the full evacuation of the Zionists from the southern territory. He said: The happiness of the southern

Lebanese people is shared by all Lebanese and by fraternal Syria, which played a distinctive role in supporting Lebanon in rejecting occupation and the 17 May agreement. It is a joy for all the Arabs.

Received by Al-Shar'

JN181148 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1100 today, Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The meeting was attended by 'Isam al-Na'ib, assistant foreign minister, and Husayn Hatim, head of the Arab homeland section at the Foreign Ministry. The talks revolved around the current Arab situation and ways to reinforce the Arab nation's steadfastness in the face of imperialist and Zionist schemes.

Meets Ba'th Party Official

JN181518 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, received Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general, this morning. During the meeting talks dealt with the Arab situation and developments in the region in light of the intensification of the imperialist and Zionist onslaught.

Received by Al-Asad

JN191420 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1340 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 19 Feb (SANA) — President Hafiz al-Asad received here this morning Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi, who arrived in Damascus the day before yesterday. The meeting was attended by Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar'.

During the meeting Klibi congratulated the president on the Syrian people's move to renew their confidence in his wise leadership that achieved for Syria the longest period of stability in its modern history and many accomplishments in the various fields. He added that Syria has always been the vanguard of the pan-Arab struggle. He wished his excellency every success in achieving further accomplishments for the Syrian Arab people and for the Arab nation and its causes.

President al-Asad thanked him for his congratulations and stressed that Syria will continue struggle for pan-Arab causes on the basis of its principled positions. The talks revolved around the situation in the region in general and in the Arab arena in particular.

Received by Khaddam

JN191811 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at 1800 today. The talks revolved around the situation in the Arab and Lebanese arenas in light of the latest developments. Khaddam also received the director general of the Middle East bureau of the Canadian Foreign Ministry. The meeting was attended by the Canadian ambassador in Damascus. The talks revolved around the situation in the region.

Foreign Ministry Official Receives Canada's Eliot

JN191356 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 19 Feb (SANA) — 'Isam al-Na'ib, assistant foreign minister, received Robert Eliot, director general of the Middle East bureau of the Canadian Foreign Ministry, this afternoon. The Canadian ambassador in Damascus attended the meeting. The talks revolved around bilateral relations and international issues of mutual interest.

Polish Justice Minister, Delegation Depart

JN181507 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1327 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus, 18 Feb (SANA) — Polish Justice Minister Lech Domeradzki and the judicial delegation accompanying him left Damascus this morning after a week-long visit to Syria during which he and the Syrian justice minister signed an agreement on judicial cooperation.

Cabinet Discusses Political Issues, Developments

JN181243 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Damascus — At 1100 today the Cabinet held session under Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm. It reviewed a number of current political issues and the new developments in the Arab and international arenas.

U.S. Policy Views Mideast as 'U.S. Possession'

JN161343 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Washington reports say that U.S. President Ronald Reagan has rejected the idea of holding an international conference on the Middle East under UN sponsorship and in which all concerned parties, including the USSR and the PLO, would participate. These reports add that Reagan pointed out that the United States wants to tackle the Middle East issue through direct negotiations among the parties that are close to the dispute. Reagan was more specific when he named Jordan as a candidate for attending these direct negotiations, representing itself as well as the Palestinians.

Reagan's remarks on the Middle East and its problems show that U.S. rulers believe that this important area of the world is a U.S. possession and an extension of closed U.S. zones of influence. The United States runs the affairs of the region, and decides its fate; it keeps the United Nations away or allows its presence whenever

it wants; and it accepts or rejects the convening of an international conference whenever it wishes. The United States has been unilaterally dealing with the problems in the region since 1974, depending on Anwar al-Sadat's deviation from the Arabs and his claim that 99 percent of the cards for a solution are in U.S. hands — thus depriving the United Nations of its role and keeping the USSR away from participating in the search for and contributing to the implementation of a just and permanent solution.

What was the result of this unilateral policy? The region's crisis became more complicated and difficult, possibilities for peaceful solution diminished, wars occurred, Israel occupied more Arab lands, and neither peace nor security were acheived. It was proven that the cards for a solution are in not in U.S. hands, and that the cards which are in U.S. hands are played against Arab interests and rights, as well as against the United Nations and its resolutions. The question is: Who allowed the United States to own the region? Who gave the United States the right to be in charge of the region's affairs? Who gave the United States the right to object to the United Nations, its Charter, and resolutions? If the United States believes that the Israeli war machine, which is under U.S. command and which depends on U.S. aid, gives it such a right, it is mistaken. If the Untied States believes that its very special relations with Israel and its cordial relations with some Arab countries give it an excellent position in the region, it is mistaken in this too.

It is correct that the United States is one of the two superpowers in the world, a permanent member of the Security Council, and a country which has a presence in the region, special relations with Israel, and a variety of relations with many countries in the region. This situation gives it a role and makes it shoulder responsibilities. However, all this will not place it above the United Nations, nor will it remove the concern of the other countries, particularly countries such as the USSR which border the region. The U.S. position cannot remove the region's people, weaken their role, disavow their rights, or cancel their ability to chart history and geography in this region.

The U.S. stands, which were defined and renewed by President Reagan, show fundamental contradictions between the U.S. stand and the minimum level that is acceptable to the Arabs. The United States wants to unilaterally tackle the region's problems, while Arab interests call for a UN role and effective participation [of all concerned parties]. The United States rejects the international conference, while Arab interests call for holding an international conference with the participation of the United Nations and the USSR so that the United States will not use the conference to impose conditions of capitulation on the Arabs. The United States rejects the PLO's participation in any conference or talks on the Middle East and the Palestine cause, while the Arabs adhere to the PLO's right to represent the Arab Palestinian people and to their right to self-determination. The United States rejects UN resolutions on the Middle East and Palestine, particularly the resolutions on the Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territory and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, while the Arabs call for respecting UN resolutions and the UN Charter. As preaching and sweet talk have not succeeded in changing U.S. stands in the past, these stands will not be changed now or in the future by seeking U.S. sympathy or making concessions to them.

Shamir Interviewed on PLO, Settlements, Egypt

TA151230 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 15 Feb 85 pp 13, 14

[Interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Ya'aqov Ha'elyon; place and date not given]

[Text] Ha'elyon: Will the PLO succeed in disintegrating the national unity government, as a result of the agreement with Husayn?
Shamir: Logically speaking, it should not succeed, and I suppose that it will not succeed in reality. According to what has been published and leaked so far, there is essentially nothing new in the agreements reached or not reached between Husayn and 'Arafat. There is no doubt that 'Arafat and the Arab countries have not given up the idea of establishing a Palestinian state — at least in Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip. It is very clear that they do not intend to even minimally satisfy those in Israel who favor territorial compromise.

Ha'elyon: And therefore?
Shamir: Therefore I do not think that there is anything new emerging in the political arena in the Middle East. This is a ploy, a propaganda maneuver, in a bid to supply political ammunition to political factors who want to weaken Israel.

Ha'elyon: Israel reacted with surprise. Was there no foreboding of the upcoming agreement?
Shamir: So far no official reaction has been issued because there is nothing to react to officially and bindingly. We were not surprised. Everyone knew that there were talks between the various Arab leaders and the PLO leadership, in a bid to find a formula that could move the United States from its political stands on the issue of the peace process. One of the main aims of such ploys is — as was said by some of those who participated in the talks — to bring about U.S. recognition of the terrorist organization and U.S. willingness to negotiate with it.

Ha'elyon: Would such a "ploy" help them obtain their goals?
Shamir: I hope that they will not succeed in leading astray the U.S. Government or world public opinion.

Ha'elyon: In this context, the prime minister is leaving for Rome and Bucharest shortly and afterwards you are leaving for Paris, Bonn and The Hague....
Shamir: I am making this trip for a clearly defined purpose — to promote our negotiations with the European Community to secure our agricultural exports even after Spain joins the EEC.

Ha'elyon: I meant to ask if the publication of the Husayn-'Arafatagreement has not been timed to weaken our stand in these visits by the Arabs presenting themselves as flexible and us as tough.
Shamir: What has been publicized to date, and probably what will be publicized in the future as well, in no way indicates that the Arabs have become more flexible. It is therefore irrelevant to accuse Israel of a tough or rejectionist attitude. In all the years of its existence, Israel has proven that it is ready for peace and coexistence with its neighbors; its neighbors, on the other hand, have never displayed any willingness for direct, overt negotiations. It is clear that I will have to explain these issues.

Ha'elyon: Are you not able to view the agreement as a step, however small, toward a dialogue?
Shamir: To date, no change for the better can be seen in the stands of the partners to the initiative. I do not see any foreboding of peace with Israel in the agreement. Israel's name has not even been mentioned. This is one of the most prominent obstacles in the full range of political activity of the Arab countries. They would like to negotiate on their relations with Israel with other factors — such as the United States, the Soviet Union, the United Nations — in an international conference...but they always avoid negotiations with Israel on problems touching on these relations.

Ha'elyon: You have stated that you will never talk with the PLO. With which Palestinians are you ready to talk?
Shamir: We are ready to speak with any factor who wants peace with Israel. There is no point in talking with people who declare that they want peace without Israel...

Ha'elyon: Will the PLO be ready to amend its charter?
Shamir: In that case it would cease to be the PLO. The charter is its doctrine and the justification for its existence. The PLO was not established after the 6-Day War but earlier. Ever since, it has not changed its objectives and plans, which are all directed at expelling Israel from the region which they believe should be entirely Arab.

Ha'elyon: You have rejected Peres' plan to implement autonomy only in the Gaza Strip. Could this not be the first step as an initial stage?
Shamir: No, because Peres has said that he has not proposed this. He only mentioned that such an idea once existed. It stemmed from the assumption that once Israel and Egypt agreed on an autonomy plan for Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip, it would first be implemented in the Gaza Strip.

Ha'elyon: Some think that the Air Force bombing in Lebanon, and a campaign such as the one launched in the village of Tura, are belated reactions to the many attacks against IDF soldiers.
Shamir: They are not reactions, but part of Israel's struggle against terrorists who attack Israeli soldiers and residents. As circumstances change, so does the course of action, including the measures taken.

Ha'elyon: Should the increase in terrorist acts not speed up our withdrawal to the border?
Shamir: There must be one fundamental consideration concerning our presence in Lebanon — how to safeguard peace in the Galilee. In principle, there was nothing new in the decision to withdraw. The government headed by Menahem Begin signed an agreement with the Lebanese Government in May 1983 in which it undertook to pull back to the international border. However, that agreement was meant to guarantee peace for the Galilee residents, even after the IDF is no longer on the other side of the border.

Ha'elyon: The question was if we should not speed up our withdrawal?
Shamir: Well, the novelty in the latest Cabinet decision was that it was decided to withdraw without planning settlements and arrangements to secure peace for the Galilee. Therefore, any increase in terrorist activity makes the question posed to the

Israeli Government more pungent — After leaving Lebanon, how can we prevent acts of terrorism that come to disrupt the life of the Galilee inhabitants? This obliges us to examine our situation at each and every phase of the withdrawal toward the border. The closer we come to the border, the more pungent this question will become.

Ha'elyon: Is the attack near Metulla, which is defined as terror in the IDF's footsteps, not one step away from attacks in Israeli territory?
Shamir: We should find out who is perpetrating these attacks and what their motives are; they may not be linked to the IDF's latest moves.

Ha'elyon: The attack was not exactly a sedative for the Galilee residents.
Shamir: I understand their apprehension and concern, but I am confident that the Israeli Government will find the ways to secure their safety and normal way of life.

Ha'elyon: Does our current attitude in Judaea and Samaria not point to a turning point, to using "a firm hand" in contrast to the policy implemented previously?
Shamir: Residents have been attacked lately, and this calls for firm intervention by the security forces to nip the new uprising in the bud.

Ha'elyon: Bud? The settlers claim that the government only woke up after the two murders and many Molotov cocktails.
Shamir: After several incidents, it became necessary to halt the further development of this situation.

Ha'elyon: It is known that you are supporting stiff measures in Judaea and Samaria, such as expulsion...
Shamir: Of course! We should fight against terrorism with all means that can eradicate and remove it. Everyone knows that expulsion is a highly deterrent means.

Ha'elyon: But the Supreme Court has currently suspended its usage...
Shamir: That is true, but if we succeed in applying it to the appropriate people, it can prevent bloodshed and losses. Therefore, the present legal obstacles should be overcome and the weapon of expulsion should be used. Laws exist to protect security, law, and order, and not to weaken the security defenses.

Ha'elyon: But it was the Likud government itself which refrained from taking such steps.
Shamir: There were periods when this measure was used more, and other periods when it was applied less.

Ha'elyon: What is your reaction to Minister Bar-Lev's remarks on Khirbat al-Rumaythah in Hebron?
Shamir: I reject them! The act of settling, the return to Hebron, the town of our fathers, is a supreme nationalistic act!

Ha'elyon: You do, of course, favor a large Jewish settlement in Hebron?
Shamir: When I visited Hebron, I was asked whether my statement that I was sure a large Jewish settlement would be set up there does not run counter to the government's policy. I replied [illegible] does not run counter to, but is in line with the policy. In 19[illegible] the government decided to have Jews settle in Hebron. Decisions made by previous governments are binding also on the current government.

Ha'elyon: By "having Jews settle in Hebron," you mean in Hebron itself or in Qiryat Arba'?
Shamir: The previous government decisions apply to both Hebron and Qiryat Arba'.

Ha'elyon: How would you define your stand on the visit of Progressive List for Peace members with 'Arafat?
Shamir: This is a criminal act which cannot be allowed or ignored by any self-respecting country. There is no country in existence which allows its citizens to talk and collaborate with those who seek its destruction! It may be that there is something lacking in our legal system which does not allow for the realization of this natural reaction. The country has to protect itself, and if there is indeed something lacking in the legal system, it should be added, and I hope this will be done.

Ha'elyon: Will you personally work to add this omission?
Shamir: I will.

Ha'elyon: In what manner should the state have reacted to the trip?
Shamir: The act should have been viewed as a crime against the state, and we should have acted accordingly. The accused should have been brought to trial!

Ha'elyon: Uri Avneri visited 'Arafat in Beirut under the Likud's rule as well.
Shamir: Then, too, this omission should have been overcome. If we have not made the amendment so far, it should be made now.

Ha'elyon: One of the counterarguments is that peace is achieved by talks with the enemy.
Shamir: Yes, but with the government's approval, and this cannot be granted to anyone. In all countries, contact with the enemy is viewed as treason. Nothing like this can be found in any country. Also, the very presence of a party affiliated with the PLO presents Israel with a mark of discredit. It is an absurd phenomenon! During my last visit to Venezuela not long ago, the leader of the ruling party asked me, "How is it possible that in the Israeli Parliament there is a party affiliated with the PLO, whereas we do not allow the PLO even to open an office here?" I could say nothing in reply.

Ha'elyon: You have lately launched sharp criticism against Egypt. Is there a reason for the timing of your remarks?
Shamir: We have paid a heavy price for peace. It is in our interest to foster and develop these ties of peace. However, Egypt is not responding in kind. On the contrary, it is acting against the spirit and letter of the peace agreement, and in addition, accuses us of being the party violating the agreement. It is our duty to clarify the true situation, and explain to Egypt and world public opinion.

Ha'elyon: That is?

Shamir: That we adhere to all our obligations, whereas Egypt is ignoring the basic matters which it has undertaken, such as returning the Egyptian ambassador to Israel, and is ignoring and violating 50 bilateral agreements on the normalization of relations; allowing hostile propaganda broadcast by the Egyptian media, which has been forbidden in a special clause in the peace agreement; and there are many more examples.

Ha'elyon: And we kept silent?
Shamir: Since the signing of the peace agreement, we have displayed much restraint in our reactions to various measures and statements by Egyptian Government officials because we did not want to exacerbate the situation. We hoped to improve the relations by means of persuasion and direct diplomatic contacts, or through our friends. However, there is a limit to everything. We must explain our stands and call Egypt to order.

Ha'elyon: Some claim, on the other hand, that your criticism will only cool the ties even further instead of thawing them.
Shamir: I do not believe that criticism causes a further cooling off. We simply believe that if there are differences of opinion, representatives of both countries should settle them by means of a direct dialogue and not through the media. However, when one of the parties avoids holding a dialogue and uses the media, we have no choice but to use the media as well, until the parties finally return to a dialogue.

Ha'elyon: Has the Tabah issue been "shelved" for the time being?
Shamir: (Laughing) Tabah is a calm, quiet place, an excellent resort site. We have heard much tribute paid to the attraction of the site by tourism experts. (Again serious) We will continue our talks, including the differences of opinion over this serene place.

Ha'elyon: Is there any truth that there has lately been a deterioration in the relations between the main partners in the government?
Shamir: Whenever there is a coexistence of two partners, there can be ups and downs in the fabric of relations. But I do not think that there is a deterioration. I do not see a danger for the existence of the government in the near future. It has not yet completed the missions for which it was established.

Ha'elyon: Much criticism has lately been levelled at the political appointments of Sharon on the one hand, and counterarguments have been raised against Alignment appointments on the other — for instance, the dismissal of Refa'el Eytan and the nomination of 'Amiram Nir as adviser on terrorism affairs.
Shamir: The problem has been exaggerated and inflated. I will not mention names. The phenomenon exists in all ministries. Israel has not yet developed the tradition of creating a government mechanism such as the Civil Service in Britain.

Ha'elyon: The U.S. Assistant secretary of state has called for a large devaluation of the shekel. Do we accept this demand, in light of our vital need for U.S. aid?
Shamir: Israel does take the advice of its U.S. friends into consideration. However, it is the Israeli Government which decides on its economic moves, and the Israeli Government will not take this step in the future, just as it did not in the past.

Ha'elyon: Some time ago you termed your function as a pledge placed in your hands. Is there any sign of Menahem Begin returning to public life?
Shamir: This depends entirely on Mr Begin. I said this after I was elected head of the Likud list, after the retirement of Mr Begin, who stood at the head of the Likud ant the Herut for many years. His retirement was a severe shock and I expressed the sincere and profound wish that he retract his decision. I am still waiting for this...

Shamir on Galilee Security, Camp David

TA180658 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says security forces must remain alert to ensure security in the Galilee, rather than indulging in a feeling of relief on leaving Lebanon. Shamir says that all the necessary steps must be taken to safeguard peace in the Galilee.

[Begin Shamir recording] I do not say, and I have never said, that the government's decision [to withdraw] should be canceled. However, I do say one thing: When the Israeli Army withdraws to the international border, everyday it must ask how it can protect — today and tomorrow — the residents of the Galilee. The security forces are required to see to it that our enemies do not take advantage of the decision to withdraw to again hit the Galilee, and thus prevent normal life there. Therefore I say: Very well, the government has decided on withdrawal, and the IDF is withdrawing. Nevertheless, every day it must see to it that the Galilee remains protected. [end recording]

As for recent political initiatives in the Middle East, Shamir claimed that the only basis for any political initiative is the Camp David accords. According to Shamir, Menahem Begin also holds this opinion. Our correspondent Eli'ezer Pney-Gil reports that Shamir made these remarks in an address to Herut youths in Kefar Sava.

Shamir Wants Tougher Stand on Lebanese Terrorism

TA200830 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Shamir says Israel will take all measures, even the most severe, to protect its soldiers in south Lebanon. Shamir was reacting last night to the increase in terrorism that has killed three soldiers since the withdrawal from the Sidon area on Saturday. Shamir, who is acting prime minister while Shim'on Peres is abroad, was speaking to reporters in Jerusalem after addressing the conference of conservative Jews:

[Begin recording] [Shamir] A terror without any reason, without any justification, because the terrorists know exactly that we are going to leave Lebanon.

[Unidentified correspondent] Are you saying then that Israeli forces will take a tougher stand against this terrorism, act with a tougher hand?

[Shamir] I hope they will do it.

[Correspondent] Why do you think the attacks are taking place now?

[Shamir] Well, there is no reason for it, but we have to do all possible to stop it.

[Correspondent] Mr Shamir, do you support a quick decision for the second stage withdrawal?

[Shamir] We will have to consider our plans in the near future, and we have to take into account the security of the Galilee.

[Correspondent] Do you think that the soldiers at their current lines are at a line that they could stay at?

[Shamir] I think we have to do everything possible to protect our soldiers. [end recording]

Rabin on Amal in South Lebanon, New Arab Axis
TA191106 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Feb 85 p 2

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Excerpts] In a speech at Tel Aviv University yesterday, Rabin disclosed that Israel recently offered to transfer the area evacuated in southern Lebanon to the Shi'ite Amal organization, on condition that Amal would act against anti-Israeli terrorist activity. The Amal people's response was — first leave the region and then we will see.

The defense minister believes that a new pro-U.S. axis has recently emerged in the Middle East, including Cairo, Amman, and Baghdad. This axis wants to take advantage of the split in the PLO and Syria's hostility toward 'Arafat so as to emerge as the standard-bearer of the Palestinian banner in the Arab world.

Rabin dismisses the possibility that the Lebanese Government could act to prevent and curb terrorist activity.

In the minister's opinion, it would have been desirable to have a dominant local element in southern Lebanon, even a hostile one. Rabin prefers to have such an entity emerge so that even if we do have a confrontation with it, it will still be ultimately possible to reach understanding and agreement with this entity. The most worrisome situation, from Israel's point of view, is that of chaos in southern Lebanon.

Rabin Says Al-Jumayyil Statement 'Grave'
TA191123 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 19 Feb 85 p 1

[Text] The call for the liberation of southern Lebanon issued by Amin al-Jumayyil, who would not have been made president had it not been for our involvement in Lebanon, is a grave statement and means Lebanon has turned its back on Israel. This was said by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in a special talk with Yo'el Marcus.

The defense minister said that Al-Jumayyil's remarks did not surprise him: "This is Lebanon. This is the nature of a country where partners and allies change according to changing interests. It was an illusion to think that Lebanon could be different."

In a reference to the continued withdrawal, Rabin said it will not be rashly carried out. Contrary to expectations, and as opposed to the withdrawal from the western sector, the two following stages will be more complicated and difficult. It is the third and final stage which will be especially complex, as it will then be necessary to solve the Galilee security problems without an IDF presence in Lebanon. "The PLO is already present in Lebanon and need not return to the previous type of deployment to fire 10 or 50 katyushas. Terrorism in Lebanon has not been liquidated and we may face more complex terrorism problems." Rabin is anticipating a Cabinet dispute over the continuation of the withdrawal, but does not believe that those who voted for a withdrawal to the international border will change their minds. "I hope we do not stay for a fourth winter in Lebanon," he said.

On the issue of settlements, the defense minister said he does not intend to uproot the Khirat al-Rumaythah settlers, because the coalition agreement stipulates that whatever existed will continue to exist. However, he stressed that when an illegal settlement is set up, "rules of law and order" will be enforced. Rabin emphasized that "our right to settle in the territories is an unquestioned principle," but noted that he is opposed to settlement inside Arab towns, adding that the defense budget will not allocate a single farthing for the establishment of the six settlements which are "in principle" slated to be set up according to the coalition agreement.

Rabin Pledges Not To Allow Terrorists' Return
TA191148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says there are more painful days ahead before peace and tranquility return to Israel's northern border. Rabin was speaking to a conference of conservative Jews in Jerusalem. David Essing reports:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Defense Minister Rabin says there is still a long way to go in the battle against terrorism, but he promises there will be reasonable security for the Galilee. Rabin says Shi'ite Muslims carry out 90 percent of the attacks, some of the Shi'ites even willing to turn themselves into kamikazes on land. The defense minister hopes the bulk of Shi'ite terrorism will stop after Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon.

[Rabin — picked up in midsentence]...not to carry out terror acts against targets in Israel. But there will be the more extreme elements organized by men inspired by the Iranian regime of Khomeyni and the Islamic fundamentalists, like the Revolutionary Guards that during the war in Lebanon sent 1,500 of their soldiers to Lebanon. To continue, they might cooperate with the PLO, and no doubt Syria will continue — mybe even increase — to support and encourage them.

[Essing] The defense minister said Shi'ite militiamen had practically rioted in Sidon yesterday, 1 day after Lebanese President

Amin al-Jumayyil had made his appearance. The Lebanese Army soldiers had remained frozen in their positions, hoping the Shi'ites would not kill them. This again proved why Lebanon was a paradise for terrorism.

Yitzhaq Rabin pledges that while there is no simple solution, the Israeli Army will not allow terrorists to return to south Lebanon and shell the Galilee at will with tens of artillery pieces.

[Rabin] We will prevent this to happen, even if it will require entering back Lebanon temporarily, bombing the area, shelling it. [sentence as received] [end recording]

David Levi on Lebanon Policy, Al-Jumayyil Speech

TA191229 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister David Levi says that any hostile element trying to entrench itself in southern Lebanon to attack Israel will be taken care of with a tough hand, and with all the appropriate means. Reacting to statements made by Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil in Sidon, Levi said that Al-Jumayyil had better manage the affairs of Lebanon in the spirit of his statements. We will take care of the issues we deem important, in the appropriate way. The deputy prime minister made these remarks during a visit to 'Akko.

On domestic issues, David Levi called for a far-reaching reform in the operation of local authorities. He said it is inconceivable for all the municipalities to be dependent on the government, and that at the beginning of every month there will be strikes because salaries have not been paid. According to him, the municipalities must be given enough resources to make them independent and thus allow them to act wisely.

General Or Comments on Lebanon Withdrawal

TA151151 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 15 Feb 85 Weekly Supplement pp 1, 2

[Interview with Major General Ori Or, commander of the IDF Northern Command, by Eytan Haber — date and place not given]

[Text] Haber: Major General Or, next week we are leaving part of Lebanon. When do you believe the last IDF soldier will return home from Lebanon?
Or: I think that toward the end of the summer, near Rosh Hashana [Jewish New Year] in September, it will be possible to conclude the third and final phase of the withdrawal, if there are no obstacles which are not connected with the Army.

Haber: Does this mean that the final withdrawal is still hanging in the balance?
Answer: No, it is not hanging in the balance. There was a decisionaccepted by a great majority to withdraw all the way to the international border. I believe that those who made this decision will not change their opinion as a result of developments in the territory — developments which were foreseen beforehand, even if their intensity was not foreseen. I do not think that there will be any military elements which will delay the withdrawal, and therefore I believe that it will be concluded toward the end of summer.

Haber: When will the next phase of the withdrawal begin?
Or: After Passover, at the end of April.

Haber: According to your assessment of the situation, will the terrorists wait until the last Israeli soldier withdraws to the international border, and then initiate a new war?
Or: The opposite is also possible. It seems to me that so far an opposite process has actually begun. They seem to think that more attacks and additional casualties will increase public pressure to withdraw to the international border. The process that I foresee in the area is an increase in attacks, as though to tell us: Gentlemen, people are being killed; therefore you better withdraw to the international border more quickly than you had planned.

Haber: And will we wait?
Or: There is no reason to wait.

Haber: According to the publications, you were one of the few IDF generals who opposed the withdrawal to the international border.
Or: Knesset Member David Magan has also asked me whether this was true, and I told him that it was not. I supported the withdrawal. There was an argument regarding whether to hold forces in a certain place, but there was no argument over the complete withdrawal.

Haber: Meanwhile, what will be the character of the new interim line?
Or: It depends where. The area of Jazzin is more Christian and therefore it will also be more open. The Christians themselves will see to it that no hostile elements enter. In the area more to the south, there will be a controlled line down to the Al-Litani. In Arnun and Al-Nabatiyah we will artificially separate two segments of the population.

Haber: What else will you be able to do as commander of the Northern Command to ensure the safety of the IDF soldiers?
Or: We will do much. Trucks will have to load and unload goods back to back; and there will be identification marks for cars. I am searching — together with the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], local elements, and the Shin Bet — for even better methods. The nearer we get to home, the stricter I will become. The point that constantly guides me is the government's decision to withdraw to the international border.

Haber: Regarding the population in the territory, is it possible to say — even if with some exaggeration — that the same population which 2 and 1/2 years ago greeted us with perfumed rice, is the same population which today plants the side charges?

Or: This is partly true. The Shi'ite population has doubtlessly turned against us during the last 2 years. Most of this community's members have taken excellent advantage of our stay in Lebanon. Nabih Birri, for example, is using our backs as a base upon which to build Shi'ite pride, as well as his personal and political status. I sincerely hope that following our withdrawal

from Lebanon, this will help him in his battle over the control in Lebanon, rather than against us.

Haber: Are we to blame?
Or: Our friction with the Shi'ites has produced resistance in at least some of that population. We have misjudged them in the last 2 years — the building of the Shi'ite community, its uniqueness and pride, was done at the expense of Israel, with Syria's support.

Haber: And how will the Shi'ites fight the internal war within Lebanon for their own Lebanon?
Or: They are heroes against us because we are — and rightly so — a Western country fighting according to the methods of a Western, democratic country. When Nabih Birri starts fighting against Lebanese methods, I am afraid he will not be able to stand against the Palestinians in Sidon, for example.

Haber: Why is this so if he has the greatest number of fighters?
Or: Numerically this is true, but not qualitatively. Take the Druze as a good example; 7 percent of the population, but united — and look how powerful! The Shi'ites are not united. Already today there are those who oppose Birri's leadership.

Haber: However, can't the Shi'ites unite with the Palestinians against Israel, their common enemy?
Or: In the short-term. Over the long-term it would hurt the Shi'ites. A Shi'ite-Palestinian unity of forces will enable the Palestinians to establish an infrastructure. In the past the Shi'ites had no love for the Palestinians.

Haber: What will happen in Sidon next week, in this case?
Or: From the balance-of-power point of view, Sidon is like a small mirror of Beirut. I believe that we will see Sunnis with Palestinians, encouraged by Druze from the mountains above.

Haber: Against whom?
Or: Against the Christians. We will also see a very serious battle between the Palestinians themselves — between 'Arafat's and Abu Musa's [Sa'id Musa Muragha] supporters. By the way, in the refugee camps, as well as in Beirut, everyone is pro-'Arafat. However, 'Arafat is at a disadvantage — he has no ground connection with the refugee camps in Lebanon, whereas the Syrians do! The Syrians are successfully trying to bring in Abu Musa's supporters into the refugee camps. We can already see the beginning of the battle; during the nights they are already killing each other. In the morning we find a body here and body there. This situation is already evident in Sidon and it will soon be true in Tyre as well. It is approaching! We are yet to see the battle for control over the refugee camps.

Haber: And those Palestinians who were recently rather quiet, what are they scheming?
Or: They are assembling their forces; and rightly so. 'Arafat is channeling money. 'Arafat has money; Abu Musa has none.

Haber: And what are they buying with this money?
Or: They are buying influential positions. Not cakes, but, for example, a kiosk in Sidon. Whoever purchased a kiosk in Sidon with 'Arafat's money is also pro-'Arafat. They are also buying food and equipment. Presently 'Arafat cannot introduce equipment. However, when we withdraw, he will bring in the equipment. You can buy everything with money, especially power or force.

Haber: And what about the weapons in the refugee camps?
Or: I assume that at present they are cleaning their weapons in the refugee camps, preparing themselves for the battle, and then they hide it from us. First of all they are preparing for the battle over Sidon. If they are successful in Sidon, they will continue onward. In the first stage there will be an internal battle over the control among the Palestinians. Following this, the Palestinians will fight to control the territory, the port, and the hills. They will attempt to regain their former assets. The Palestinians are better fighters than the Shi'ites.

Haber: And will the terrorist who are stuck in Beirut try to move toward Sidon and Tyre, that is toward our forces?
Or: They are already making preparations for this. I believe that 'Arafat's supporters in Beirut will very quickly attempt to reinforce the refugee camps near Sidon and onward. The alliance which at present seems to me most feasible is that between the Sunnis and the Palestinians in Sidon. In the south the situation is different.

Haber: Maj Gen Or, what must happen for us to return to Sidon?
Or: In my opinion nothing.

Haber: We will not return?
Or: I cannot commit myself today. If I viewed demonstrations in Sidon next week standing on an observation post, it would not be a good enough reason to return there. However, if several months later I learn that a terrorist boat is about to depart from the port of Sidon to attack Rosh Haniqra, or if I learn about squads organizing to attack the IDF, then we will return to Sidon. We will return with the Air Force. We will return in helicopters; we will return via the sea and via the ground.

Haber: It is conceivable, God forbid, that one night katyusha rockets will hit Qiryat Shemona, Avivim, Ma'alot, or Nahariyya. What would you, as commander of the Northern Command, tell the residents the next morning?
Or: If I can locate the area from which the katyushas have been fired, then it is very conceivable that even while I am on my way to Qiryat Shemona there will already be a military operation in that area. However, if it was only a small truck which came in, fired and vanished, then I will tell them what they have already been told many times — Life here, in Qiryat Shemona, as well as in any other place in the north, is not such that I can promise that no katyushas will ever fall. However, I will do everything possible to prevent them.

Haber: And can they be prevented?
Or: I am certain that we can prevent a return to the situation which existed before 1981, a situation in which there were hundreds of katyushas and artillery pieces. It is true that it will be very difficult for me to face a Qiryat Shemona mother with her child who will tell me: For me it makes no difference if it is only one katyusha or not. It exploded and perhaps it killed people. The answers will be difficult, but sincere.

Haber: Do you not think that too many things which cannot be fulfilled have been said in this issue, such as "no more katyushas," and did this not turn Qiryat Shemona into a challenge and a symbol to the terorists?
Or: You are 100 percent right. In my visit to Qiryat Shemona I told them: Your talks about leaving the town create a challenge for the terrorists. Whoever shouts "no more katyushas" is turning Qiryat Shemona into a symbol for the terrorists, whose thinking is as following: No more katyushas? We will show them that very quickly there will be another katyusha.

Haber: What is happening with the ASL? What will happen to it following the withdrawal? There were reports of desertions from this army.
Or: This is a militia-type army. We have made accurate assessments as to how many people will leave this army following every phase of the withdrawal. It is clear to us that those living in Sidon will not leave their homes for this army. To date far fewer have left than we expected — approximately 20 people living around Sidon. If I understood the government's decision correctly, it is essential that the ASL be a very strong army in the security zone, because the state of Israel has decided to withdraw all the way to the international border.

Haber: You travel extensively in Lebanon and meet local residents. Do you feel that they regret the IDF's withdrawal?
Or: The silent majority, including the Shi'ites and the Druze, do not want us to leave Lebanon. The silent majority is interested in calm to cultivate their land, to plant olive trees. The Shi'ites are also interested that we remain there, because they are not prepared for the struggle; they need 1 or maybe 2 more years. The silent majority wants us to remain. However, we know that in Lebanon it is not the majority who decides things, and therefore the Shi'ites demonstrate happiness, the Christians are very sorry and...

Haber: And who else?
Or: The IDF soldiers, who are naturally happy.

Haber: We will return to Israel, and then again we will resume the method of raids, ambushes, Air Force attacks, artillery fire. Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said that from now on, the activity will be more aggressive. What does this mean?
Or: The IDF soldiers will probably return to some areas in Lebanon. They will possibly leave immediately, but possibly they will stay for a couple of months. There will be some areas from which we will not tolerate any action against us, even action which is much smaller in scope than that prior to the Peace for Galilee operation. Some 100,000 good Israelis along the border have great expectations of us, and in my opinion this will require us to be more aggressive.

Haber: As commander of the Northern Command, does every morning bring a new surprise as far as events in Lebanon are concerned?
Or: No. In the Northern Command we continuously reassess the situation; there are optimists and there are pessimists. I told them that unfortuantely to date all the pessimistic assessments on Lebanon have been fulfilled.

Haber: Do you believe that Shi'ite terrorism will cross the good fence?
Or: The extremist element in Shi'ite terrorism will search for us. Perhaps not in the beginning, because it is about to face a serious struggle within Lebanon, and the Palestinians will try to hit the Shi'ites and reduce their assets. Later on, Shi'ite terrorism will search for us in northern Israel.

Haber: This does not encourage or console us.
Or: I believe that we will have to deal with terrorism in the north for a long period, and by this I mean many years. Perhaps following the IDF's withdrawal it will be on a smaller scale for several months, but afterwards it will increase. The Palestinians will organize, and after this the relations between the vermin, snakes, and scorpions will be balanced, and they will turn against us again.

Haber: Is it impossible to discover booby-trapped cars?
Or: It is possible. So far we have discovered four booby-trapped cars at crossing points. Despite the reports about booby-trapped cars and side charges, most casualties are due to Kalashnikov shots. Everyone in Lebanon has a Kalashnikov. Everyone hides a Kalashnikov or an RPG under his bed. And for money, anyone — Druze and Christians included — will give you weapons.

Haber: Do you not have a feeling of nausea and disgust when you work in Lebanon?
Or: Certainly. But I feel more disrespect and more pity than disgust and nausea. Why? Because I know that they will continue to kill each other for many years after we withdraw from Lebanon. People want me to admire the view in Lebanon, but I am not impressed by the view, because the real view of a country is the human element, and therefore I am not impressed by the beautiful mountains and trees. If an 8-year-old Lebanese boy kills all the birds in the trees, what kind of a view can this be? And this is Lebanon. You ask me if I suffer from nausea? I am nauseated when I se ny soldiers spread all over Lebanon — and this is what makes n afraid. We must evacuate them and deal with important issues. There is simply no light at the end of the Lebanese tunnel.

Haber: As an IDF general, as a member of the General Staff, as a soldier, are you not concerned about the fact that a complete generation has done its entire military service in Lebanon and know the IDF only through their flak jackets?
Or: I am concerned. However, this situation can be corrected. Last year, in particular, we were able to withdraw battalions for training. However, it is doubtlessly true that the ongoing feeling is that we are in a constant defensive posture, rather than on the offense, and over the long term, this is a bad situation. Moreover, this is actually a situation of helplessness.

Haber: Does this include strategic points, such as the point where we threaten Damascus from a distance of only 25 km?
Or: Doubtlessly there is a strategic asset in this situation. However, this ace does not justify our stay in the area. Had we decided to remain in the eastern sector and to evacuate only the western sector, then I assume that terrorism in the eastern sector would have increased. I prefer to withdraw from there according to the Israeli Government's decision, rather than under the pressure of the terrorists. Moreover, in the eastern sector I need

fortifications for the men, and every shekel I invest there is ultimately a waste. Had I been planning to attack Syrian, then the eastern sector would have constituted a strategic asset. The state of Israel, however, is not about to attack Syria. If someone would have come to me 4 years ago and said: Take a map and prepare the best way to defend Israel's border; I would not have suggested conquering Jabal Al-Baruk. I do not think that the fact that we happen to be in the place justifies our remaining there.

Haber: Ori, last question. Next week we are departing from one region of Lebanon. Will there be tears in your eyes?
Or: No! It is impossible for me to have tears!

Lubrani on Security Following Lebanon Withdrawal
TA151343 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15 Feb 85 p 12

[Interview with Uri Lubrani, coordinator of government activities in Lebanon, by Hayim Ravya — date and place not given]

[Text] Ravya: Once the withdrawal is completed, will we be able to talk about — maybe not 40 years — but 40 months, of quiet?
Lubrani: I think the issue is much too serious for us to be dealing with demagogy. The answer may lie in the basic assumption that the Lebanon we are talking about now is significantly different from the Lebanon we originally entered. Under no circumstances can it be expected that the northern border will be impenetrable to katyushas. All that can be hoped for is that the katyushas, when they do fall, do not disrupt normal life. Incidents also occur in Jerusalem. This type of thing must be expected in the north, perhaps more than anywhere else. In addition, there is a legitimate argument regarding expectations — there are those who say that as we put distance between us and the Shi'ite community, the number of incidents against us will decrease, while others say that this is indeed so, but that the "attacks" need not necessarily originate from that community.

Ravya: What is your opinion on this?
Lubrani: To my regret, I think that there are enough groups inside and outside Lebanon that will make an enormous effort to make use of the weakness of southern Lebanon to attack us. That will be the only place along our border through which we could be attacked. What is the problem in Lebanon? The problem is that it is the only area in which we do not have a partner. We even have a partner in those areas in Lebanon in which the IDF and the Syrian Army are stationed opposite each other. I fear that we will witness Shi'ite and Palestinian terrorism in those chaotic areas where we do not have a partner.

Ravya: Do you agree with the view that the key to what happens in the future lies with the Shi'ites, because they are the majority and capable of deciding whether to prevent or allow the terrorists to return?
Lubrani: You have a point there. However, the Palestinians retain many keys and they will probably want to go on attacking us. They will do that in every way available to them, either with the help of the Shi'ites or despite their presence. One should not forget that we released some 3,000 Palestinians from Ansar who are now living in the refugee camps and waiting.

Ravya: Why was it actually decided to make a gradual withdrawal? Do we expect to attain in the field all the things we failed to achieve from an evident position of power when we ruled over southern Lebanon?
Lubrani: The decision to deploy the IDF along the international border was a tough one. It was not easily made and it entails many practical aspects. One of the certainties in Lebanon is the uncertainty of the situation. The situation will be uncertain, and I think the government acted wisely when it decided not to go for broke all at once.

Ravya: Your remarks suggest that Israel may not complete the withdrawal.
Lubrani: I do not think so; the withdrawal is a package deal. Let us assume that in the course of implementing the economic package deal, people realized that all hell was breaking loose and that Israel was getting into such an economic whirlwind that the deal had to be stopped. Would Israel not have stopped it? Of course it would!

Ravya: Does Israel know what it would like to see in southern Lebanon beyond such generalities as "security arrangements?"
Lubrani: I think that Israel first of all knows what it would not like to see in southern Lebanon, and that is a base for attacks on the northern border.

Ravya: And what does it want to see?
Lubrani: It wants to see an area under the responsibility of the central government in Lebanon becoming an inseparable part of Lebanon and a government able to dominate the various factors there. We are past the point when we wanted to attain political objectives in Lebanon.

Ravya: But such a central government is a utopia. What do we want in practical terms?
Lubrani: We want the inhabitants of those areas we describe as sensitive, from the point of view of Israel's security, to realize that they only have one choice, and that is to look for a way to prevent attacks against Israel from those areas. If they do not do that, Israel will feel free to act the moment it is no longer responsible for what happens beyond its northern border. I will give you just one example. Al-Nabatiyah, a town in southern Lebanon, had 5,000 inhabitants when the IDF marched into southern Lebanon. Why is that? Because Al-Nabatiyah was struck several times and the people simply fled. This may certainly happen again. If Al-Nabatiyah becomes a launching point for attacks against us, Israel will not feel any commitment to it. This is just an example, I am not saying that this will be the situation tomorrow.

The security strip has not yet been determined, but it will certainly be narrow, no more than 8 to 10 km wide. Local forces — you can call them the army of southern Lebanon, if you want — will operate in this strip. We will probably want to know what happens, and we will not allow the formation of hostile groups in this strip which we regard as the prime area for launching attacks against us.

Ravya: And what about the area beyond this strip?
Lubrani: If the inhabitants fail to prevent attacks against us from the strip from which katyushas and artillery fire could be

aimed at us, we will simply have to make them understand that we will make their lives miserable. It is as simple as that.

Ravya: By using exactly that method, Israel did not even once succeed in obviating the need to go into Lebanon and fight. What makes us think we will succeed this time? Why do we think that they have learned their lesson?
Lubrani: I have no certainty whatsoever that I am right. However, I think the same holds true regarding those who claim exactly the opposite.

Ravya: The defense minister stated in Washington that the Syrians are the real winners of the war in Lebanon. If that is the case, it would seem that things will henceforth evolve according to the Syrian interest, that to know what lies in store for us we will have to find out what the Syrian interest is.
Lubrani: The time has come to look reality in the face. As the saying goes. It is not that pleasant, but it is not that terrible either.... The Syrians have all the qualifications needed to have more influence in Lebanon than us. Syria enjoys Soviet support and it feels freer to use methods that we do not want and cannot use in Lebanon. Moreover, I think that the Syrian interest in Lebanon is more immediate and practical than ours. They also learned their lesson, decided against an occupation of Lebanon, and found someone to do their job for them. This means that their influence is stronger and more geared to the long term than ours.

Ravya: Will they also be interested in continuing to harass Israel's northern border?
Lubrani: Now I am asking you: If you were a Syrian, what would you say?

Ravya: Yes, certainly.
Lubrani: Well, then all I have to do when I get up in the morning and contemplate what is happening in Lebanon is to think: What do they think about us? If I think as a Syrian, then I see no reason why they should leave us alone.

Ravya: What is the bottom line as far as the northern settlements are concerned? What should they expect now?
Lubrani: Every responsible person in the north realizes the chances for unrest will increase after the IDF's redeployment and must be ready for it. I would make every possible effort and arrangement that would allow me to go ahead with a normal life in light of impending attacks. It is better to be prepared for the worst and be favorably surprised, than to lead a happy-go-lucky life and be dealt a blow.

Defense Officials Seek Tougher Lebanon Policy

TA191050 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 19 Feb 85 pp 1, 10

[Report by Eytan Haber and Yehezqel Hame'iri]

[Excerpt] In view of recent incidents in Lebanon, officials in the defense establishment said last night: "We have nothing to look for in Lebanon anymore." Intensive activity is expected among Alignment, Likud, and other ministers this week in an attempt to shorten the duration of presence in Lebanon to the minimum.

At the same time, the defense establishment is demanding that measures be taken against the terrorists and that an ironhanded policy be adopted against centers of terrorist activity, such as the Shi'ite village of Al-Bazuriyah where two IDF soldiers were killed over the last 2 days. The demand for an ironhanded policy was made categorically: "It is impossible to continue with a moral, humane policy in Lebanon, which long ago erased these words from its dictionary." Some people in the defense establishment claim that the desire to demonstrate to the world the IDF's high level of morality is costing us lives.

Defense Official on Incidents in Lebanon

TA191828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The director general of the Defense Ministry says the number of attacks against Israeli soldiers in Lebanon must be reduced before the completion of the withdrawal, so that the terrorist successes will not be an example to others. Menahem Meron was speaking today in Zikhron Ya'aqov.

Meanwhile, Cabinet Minister Amnon Rubinstein of the Shinuy Party has called on the prime minister and defense minister to speed up the withdrawal from Lebanon. In a letter to the two, Rubinstein says that in light of the terrorist attacks in south Lebanon and the absence of any chance for an agreed settlement, the defense establishment must prepare itself for a faster withdrawal.

IDF Officers on Dealing With Lebanese Shi'ites

TA200828 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Senior IDF officers in southern Lebanon say that only a harsh blow will silence the Shi'ite attacks on our soldiers. The officers told our military correspondent that the Shi'ites are taking advantage of the restrictions adopted by the IDF because of its humane attitude. Our military correspondent reports that tension is growing in the area, and the inhabitants fear that the IDF will react sharply by methods not used previously.

Terrorist Suspect Killed in Southern Lebanon

TA191715 Tel Aviv ITIM in hebrew 1710 GMT 19 Feb 85

["Announcement by the IDF Spokesman" — ITIM headline]

[Text] [No dateline as received] Military sources have reported that in the course of searches for terrorists in the village of Tibnin in southern Lebanon, five suspects were detained. Another terrorist, who hid in one of the houses there, was shot and killed.

General Lahd Says Security Strip 'Not Efficient'

TA191454 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1422 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] General Antoine Lahd has said a narrow security strip like that which existed during Major Haddad's time is not efficient

and will not bring calm to southern Lebanon and security to the Galilee. This is because in Haddad's time the population had an interest in fighting the Palestinians, who were foreign elements in that area. Today, Lahd said, some of the perpetrators of the attacks are Lebanese, residents of the area, and the situation has changed compietely.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that General Lahd said that if he became aware that a situation inimical to the calm and security in southern Lebanon had been created, he would regard himself as having failed and would remove himself from the political-military game in the area. Lahd also said the army of southern Lebanon has recently increased its activity to cope with the increase in terrorism.

Combating Amal Hostilities

TA191456 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1435 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] has said that his army will fight the hostile elements in southern Lebanon which have been operating methodically against the ASL soldiers. According to our correspondent in the north Menahem Horowitz, General Lahd said this in reaction to the Amal organization's call for stepped up attacks on ASL soldiers. Lahd believes that more ASL soldiers will soon ask to be relieved of their duties so they can remain with their families in the areas to be evacuated by the IDF.

No Observer to U.S.-Soviet Middle East Talks

TA170500 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] The U.S. secretary of state has instructed members of the U.S. delegation to the talks with the Soviet Union on the Middle East to express absolute opposition to the notion of an international conference. Secretary Shultz instructed his representatives to tell the Soviets that UN Security Council Resolution 242 is the basis for negotiations. Our political correspondent notes that Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy notified Israeli Ambassador to the United States Me'ir Rosenne about this.

Jerusalem has decided not to send an observer to the U.S.-Soviet talks, scheduled to begin in Vienna on Tuesday, but rather follow them through the embassies in Vienna and Washington.

Jerusalem Sources React to U.S.-Soviet Talks

TA191813 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Today in Vienna, representatives of the two superpowers spent about 5 hours discussing Middle East affairs. U.S. State Department representatives repeated their emphasis that this was a matter of an exchange of views and information. During the talks, possible negotiations over the Middle East or the convening of an international conference were not discussed.

Sources in Jerusalem have told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that, in principle, any move likely to dispel the tension between the blocs should be welcomed. However, a dialogue between the United States and the Soviet Union will not further peace in our area as long as the Soviets continue to conduct a policy hostile to Israel and to support its enemies. At the same time, the sources stressed that if the dialogue leads to a change in the Soviet Union's policy and a renewal of the links between it and Israel, Jerusalem would welcome this, because a renewal of ties is essential for any Soviet contribution to peace.

Clarification on Reagan Statement Sought

TA151552 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by Yosi Melman and Amir Oren]

[Excerpt] Israel is going to ask the United States for clarifications following the latest statements by President Reagan and administration officials, which are arousing great concern in Jerusalem.

Political sources in the Prime Minister's Office have expressed disappointment over the President's statement that there are encouraging signs in the Jordanian-PLO move, and even more disappointment over the State Department spokesman's statement that Israel should conduct negotiations with Syria over the future of the Golan Heights.

The fear has been expressed in Jerusalem that a trend is emerging, one indicating a change in U.S. positions which could lead to pressure on Israel to make its positions on negotiations with the PLO, Jordan, and Syria more flexible.

A political source told *DAVAR*: "If you take our absolute economic dependence on the United States into account, the fact that without the United States we would have been declared bankrupt, it is easier to understand our concern that the United States may use economic aid as a means of pressure and blackmail Israel on political issues."

Within the next few days Israeli Ambassador to the United States Me'ir Rosenne will be asked to meet with the secretary of state and administration officials to hear about the U.S. position first hand.

Peres Says Fahd Visit Not 'Great Success'

TA180755 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 18 Feb 85 p 3

[Report by Judy Siegal]

[Excerpt] The next two months will be "Arab season" in Washington, with numerous Arab leaders coming to the White House to mobilize the U.S. to their side and to try to force Israel to act against its will, Prime Minister Peres said to Diaspora Jewish leaders and Jewish Agency officials.

Peres made a surprise appearance before the expanded Jewish Agency Executive in Jerusalem on Saturday night. He had earlier promised to attend the Joint Coordinating Committee of the government and the Jewish Agency four times a year, but he will be unable to be there this week because he is leaving for

Europe today. Thus he asked to speak to the Jewish leaders at a different forum.

The premier said that Saudi Arabia's King Fahd's recent visit to Washington had not been a great success, both because of his refusal to deal with Israel directly and because the oil-dependant power is in bad economic shape.

Turning to the Jordan-PLO accord, Peres said Israel should not react nervously to this attempt to reach a modus vivendi.

Regarding the cold peace with Egypt, Peres said that he has been receiving "formal and informal" messages from President Husni Mubarak. He added that an improvement of relations between the two countries would contribute to the momentum for peace in the region. "Why do we have to be the Santa Claus of the Middle East?" Peres asked, in a comment on the Tabah dispute. "Why must we be the only ones to give?" He added that the small area south of Elat is the same size as the Vatican, and Egypt "wants to make Tabah just as holy."

The premier concluded, however, that after all Israel has sacrificed, it is important that peace with Egypt be successful.

On Israel's economy, Peres said it is "not as bad as the economists predicted, and not as good as the politicians say." He predicted, however, that February's inflation rate would not be more than 10-11 per cent, and not the 15 per cent that had been suggested.

Sharon Calls 'Arafat-Husayn Accord 'Smokescreen'

TA172108 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Minister Sharon believes that the Husayn-'Arafat agreement is nothing but a smokescreen to change 'Arafat's image in the eyes of the Americans and to exert pressure in Israel. In a meeting with members of the Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza Strip Council, Ari'el Sharon said he does not believe the agreement will lead to a new political process. In Sharon's opinion, the agreement does not constitute a change in the Arab stance. It is Israel, Sharon said, which should dictate the following moves and increase the development momentum in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza.

Our correspondent adds that the council members asked the industry and trade minister to accelerate the development of industry in their settlements, and their impression was that this will indeed be the case.

Egypt Planning To Implement Husayn-'Arafat Accord

TA181033 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 18 Feb 85 p 5

[Report from Cairo by Shefi Gabay]

[Excerpt] A committee of experts in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry is preparing a draft proposal which will be presented to the sides involved in the Middle East conflict, as well as to the superpowers and the EEC. This proposal will list the stages for implementing the Husayn-'Arafat agreement and will be presented following the withdrawal of the IDF from Lebanon to the international border. This was told to *MA'ARIV* by diplomatic sources.

The first stage in the plan calls for a dialogue between the United States and the PLO. Following this it envisions simultaneous mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO, and later on negotiations between the sides, leaving the door open for other Arab states to join.

Senior Jerusalem Official Rejects Mubarak's Criticism

TA171816 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] A senior Jerusalem official has rejected President Mubarak's criticism to the effect that Israel is ignoring the 'Arafat-Husayn agreement. The official, who wished to remain anonymous, said Israel's reaction was positive. He nevertheless noted that the agreement is not clear, that there are several versions of it, and that Israel is then not expected to react to it directly. President Mubarak warned that Israel will shoulder responsibility for results which will have a long-term effect if it does not respond favorably to the Husayn-'Arafat agreement.

Peres, Shamir Send Mubarak, 'Ali Messages

TA181259 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 18 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Text] Muhammad Basyuni, the Egyptian charge d'affaires to Israel, yesterday left for Cairo with a message from Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. At the same time, Israeli Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason has also returned to Cairo following consultations in Jerusalem. Sason is carrying messages from Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

The messages sent to the Egyptian leaders are in response to messages from Mubarak and 'Ali received last weekend in Jerusalem, which include statements about the improvement of bilateral relations in several spheres. President Mubarak has promised, among other things, to approve import licences for several Egyptian merchants who want to purchase goods in Israel. He also promised to ease procedures at the border crossing points for Israeli tourists traveling to the Sinai.

Along with Mubarak's announcement permitting Israeli tourists to anchor off and visit Coral Island, and also permitting a search for the *Daqar* submarine and pilots missing in the Yom Kippur War, there is also an arrangement regarding the transfer of the "Canada" refugee camp inhabitants in Rafah to the Gaza Strip. Egypt has agreed to participate in the rehabilitation of these refugees, paying $8,000 for each of the 500 families transferred to Israel's responsibility.

Political sources in Jerusalem point out that Egypt's willingness to thaw relations is a gesture toward the United States, which has recently increased its pressure on Cairo, mainly in regard to the issue of anti-Israeli propaganda.

HA'ARETZ correspondent Eytan Rabin adds the following: "Despite President Mubarak's statements that he will allow complete freedom of navigation around Coral Island — the situation has deteriorated even more." This was told to *HA'ARETZ* yesterday by an IDF officer serving in the liaison unit in Tabah. Less than 24 hours after Mubarak's announcement an incident occurred in which an Egyptian gunboat tried to hit an Israeli yacht after the captain of the yacht refused to desembark. Military sources noted yesterday that apparently the announcement by the Egyptian president has not yet reached the Egyptian soldiers on Coral Island.

The Egyptian consul in Elat, who returned yesterday from Egypt, promised to examine the issue this morning.

Shamir on Egyptian Attitude Toward Peace

TA200640 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Feb 85 p 3

[Text] Foreign Minister Shamir last night blasted Egypt again for its concept of peace, saying the conditions for the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Tel Aviv were "quite unacceptable."

Speaking before a meeting of the World Council of Synagogues at the Laromme Hotel in Jerusalem, Shamir said that Egypt's terms for the return of the ambassador should be a subject of concern to the U.S. as well.

The terms are: Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon, settlement of the Tabah dispute, and progess on the Palestinian problem.

It is a matter of "profound regret," he continued, that Egypt should have regarded the peace treaty as basically an instrument for getting Sinai back, following which it could "disengage" itself from the treaty.

He again complained about the attitutde of the Egyptian news media. The Egyptian charge d'affaires in Israel has no difficulty in getting the attention of the media here, while the same thing is well nigh impossible for Israel's ambassador to Egypt, he said.

Speaking about Lebanon, the foreign minister stressed that there is no disagreement in principle about the withdrawal from Lebanon inside the Cabinet. The differences of opinion, he said, are only about the manner of the withdrawal.

The Arab governments, he said, might seek to exploit differences between the Likud and the Alignment over the future borders of the country. But both parties, he maintainted, do not even think of withdrawing the IDF from Judaea and Samaria.

Ismailia Chosen Venue of Tabah Talks With Egypt

TA151806 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Israeli and Egyptian delegations will confer in Ismailia in a few days to pursue the deliberations on Tabah. This was decided in Jerusalem in light of the letter brought by the Egyptian Embassy's charge d'affaires from President Mubarak to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres. Our political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer reports that no exact date for that meeting has been set yet.

Egyptian Consul Refuses To Meet Minister in Tabah

TA200930 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Feb 85 p 3

[Report by Eytan Rabin]

[Text] Egypt's consul general in Elat, Hasan 'Isa, has refused to meet with Tourism Minister Avraham Sharir at the Aviya Sonesta Hotel [in Tabah], but has agreed to meet with him in Elat tomorrow at 1200. The minister is scheduled to visit Elat, and will stay at the Aviya Sonesta. He wished to hold a meeting with the Egyptian consul and discuss the difficulties Israeli vessels have been experiencing in their attempts to sail to Coral Island.

Last night, the Egyptian consul said that beginning this morning or tomorrow morning Israeli yachts will be able to sail freely to Coral Island and lay anchor in the area.

Agreement on U.S. Military Grants for Next 3 Years

TA171041 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 17 Feb 85 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Excerpts] Israel and the United States have recently arrived at a written understanding, according to which Israel will receive a $1.8 billion grant for each of the next 3 years. A special clause included in the agreement between the two countries also stipulates that Israel will be able to ask for an increase in the grant each year according to developments in the region. This clause is meant to deal with extraordinary developments, such as large shipments of sophisticated weapons to the Arab countries.

It should be noted that the disadvantage of this agreement is that it curtails Israel's ability to bargain over the level of the military grant. The agreement was signed by Defense Ministry Director General Menahem Meron on Israel's behalf and by State Department representatives on behalf of the United States.

Finance Ministry Responds to U.S. 'Demands'

TA171127 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 17 Feb 85 pp 1, 8

[Report by Shraga Meckel and Yitzhaq Dish]

[Excerpt] The U.S. Administration will not grant special economic aid to Israel unless dollarization is implemented. Another condition the Americans stipulated to the Israeli Government is the reinforcement of the Bank of Israel's authority, which would mean that the bank would adjust currency and interest rates only according to economic considerations.

Unless these steps are taken, the U.S. Administration is not prepared to increase aid to Israel. If the measures are implemented, the administration would be willing to give Israel even

more than the $800 million Israel requested this year in special aid.

The economic ministries in Jerusalem learned about the details of the U.S. demands in the wake of the announcement of Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i's trip to the United States at the beginning of next month. The U.S. Administration also noted that the effort being made by the Israeli Government to implement economic measures is reasonable but not sufficient.

Figures in Jerusalem also learned that reservations exist in the administration regarding the increase in the amount of military aid to Israel, because Israel is spending less on defense now than it did in the 1970's. Responding to the U.S. demands, the Finance Ministry said last night that Israel is opposed to dollarization or a large devaluation. Such moves, it was said, will not be made to please the Americans. Economic sources in Jerusalem assess that the U.S. Administration will try to make the special aid to Israel contingent on political concessions on its part. This is the reason why the chances of Yitzhaq Moda'i receiving special aid during his visit to Washington next month are not very good.

Moda'i To Seek $800 Million Grant From U.S.

TA191535 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The finance minister is to leave for the United States on 13 March; 2 days afterward he will meet with administration representatives. He will ask the Americans to immediately give Israel an emergency grant of $800 million to prevent foreign currency reserves from dropping to an all-time low and produce a state of emergency, or an increase in Israel's debts.

Yitzhaq Moda'i will also explain to the Americans the government's recent moves, and he will emphasize that he expects the economic recovery to begin in the next few months.

Supplementary Budget Passes Knesset First Reading

TA181831 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] The Knesset passed, in a first reading, the supplementary budget for the current fiscal year [ending on 31 March 1985]. In presenting the budget proposal to the Knesset, the finance minister said that the supplementary budget is necessary due to the increase in subsidies, deviations in capital investments, and increase in the repayment of loans which had not been taken into consideration earlier.

He added that the 3 months of the first package deal, which slowed down the inflation slightly, offset the government's spending and somewhat reduced the size of the budget which would otherwise have been submitted. He expressed the hope that it will not be necessary to submit a supplementary budget in the coming fiscal year, saying this is one of the reasons why he asked the government to make sure there are no budget deviations.

Moda'i on Subsidy Issue

TA190747 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 19 Feb 85 p 2

[Report by the Knesset correspondent]

[Excerpts] Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i told the Knesset yesterday that he has no intention of submitting his resignation before the economy is back on its feet. "That would be the easy way out," he said. "I regard my job as a mission."

He was replying to the debate on the supplementary budget of $1.9 billion for the fiscal year ending next month, which later passed its first reading. Moda'i said that the government intends to retain subsidies only where they constitute a planning instrument, as in the case of agricultural produce.

In general, such subsidies would drop to 25 per cent of the price, but they would be as high as 50 per cent in special cases, such as public transport. There the subsidy is designed as an incentive to encourage more use of public transport, Moda'i said. The subsidies on fuel, electricity, and cooking oil would be abolished.

Moda'i promised not to "open safe deposit boxes" — something contemplated by Yiga'el Hurvitz when he was finance minister — or to "enter houses." The citizen's privacy would be respected, he said. But he promised that "we will get to the tax evaders — and soon."

Of the $1.9 billion, the sum of $400 million is actually a bookkeeping item between the Treasury and the Bank of Israel and has no economic implementations.

Rabbi Levinger Leaves West Bank Vigil Site

TA191057 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 19 Feb 85 p 2

[Report by Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Text] The Judaca, Samaria and Gaza Settlements Council is planning to launch a campaign in the coming days to guarantee the right of Jews to settle all parts of Eretz Yisra'el, including Khirbat al-Rumaythah in the heart of Hebron. This was declared by the council's secretary, 'Otni'el Schneller, in a news conference he held yesterday opposite the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, following the end of Rabbi Levinger's demonstration there.

Schneller warned that in fact negotiations have begun between Peres and 'Arafat, expressing concern at the appeal by the leader of the PLO awaiting Peres in Rome. According to him, the Judaca, Samaria and Gaza Settlements Council wants to incorporate the public at large in the campaign so as to prevent the isolation of settlements beyond the Green Line.

Last night Rabbi Levinger left his position opposite the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp following a protest vigil of about 4 months. According to him, he preferred to do so under cover of dark so as not to give the local residents the satisfaction of seeing him leave.

In an impromptu news conference, Levinger said his demonstration achieved its goal, and thanked Defense Minister Rabin for the measures he has taken to guarantee the safety of Jews living beyond the Green Line.

MAPAM youths who had demonstrated against Levinger announced they were leaving the area along with him.

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Receives SDAR President Abdelaziz

LD182145 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid has received Mr Mohamed Abdelaziz, the president of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic, and Mr Cherif Kherroubi, the minister of national education, who presented to the head of state a report on his official visit to the Soviet Union.

Bendjedid Receives Niger Minister of Justice

LD191532 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Algiers, 19 Feb (APS) — Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and secretary general of the FLN party, today received Allele Elhadji Habibou, the Niger minister of justice and personal envoy of President Kountche.

Polish Foreign Minister Arrives for Visit

LD191857 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] This afternoon the Polish minister of foreign affairs arrived in Algiers. He was met by his counterpart, Mr Taleb Ibrahimi. Mr Stefan Olszowski, who is also a member of the Politburo of the Polish United Workers' Party, is making a 3-day official visit to our country.

'Arafat Arrives, Reviews Topics of Talks

LD162302 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Mr Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, this afternoon arrived in Algiers and he was met by Brother (Sadek Zouaten), member of the Permanent Secretariat for External Relations and the PLO's representative in Algiers. Mr Yasir 'Arafat made a statement to the national press saying that he will continue the discussions he had started with Algerian officials during his previous visit concerning the current developments inside the occupied territories, Lebanon, and the future of the Palestinian refugees camps in southern Lebanon in view of the Zionist enemy's threats. The talks will also deal with the current developments in the Palestinian scene including the Palestinian-Jordanian agreement which was signed lately in Amman, the latest developments in the Arab arena and the consolidation of Arab solidarity in all fields in view of the fraternal and strong relations that link us with the Algerians brothers, president, Government, and people. Yasir 'Arafat was received by Brother Mohamed Cherif Massaadia, member of the Politburo and the official in charge of the FLN Permanent Secretariat at the party headquarters. During this meeting, which was attended by Brother (Sadek Zouaten), the latest developmetns in the Palestinian arena were reviewed and the latest developments that have occurred in the Arab region

Burkinabe Defense Minister Arrives in Algiers

AB191637 Paris AFP in French 1500 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Algiers, 19 Feb (AFP) — Major Jean-Baptiste Lingani, defense minister of Burkina Faso, arrived in Algiers on Tuesday for a visit of unspecified duration, it was learned from an official source. No details were given on the program of the visit of the Burkinabe minister who was met on arrival by General Kamel Abderrahim, deputy chief of staff of the Algerian People's National Army, accompanied by senior officers of the Ministry of National Defense.

Last summer, General Abderrahim led an Algerian delegation to Ouagadougou to participate in the ceremony marking the first anniversary of Captain Sankara's rule. Relations between Algeria and Burkina Faso have been strengthened since the visit to Algiers by the Burkinabe head of state last April during which they decided to "strengthen the good climate" that prevailed over relations between the two countries.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Mauritanian Message

LD162338 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution tonight received Dr Louleid Ould Weddad, the personal envoy of Mauritanian president Colonel Maayouia Ould Sidi Ahmed Taya, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation and head of state of the Republic ofMauritania, who conveyed to him a written message from the Mauritanian president.

SFRY's Culafic Conducts Visit to Tripoli

Received by Jabir

LD191522 Tripoli JANA in English 1427 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 29, Feb. 19, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir has today received the Yugoslav member of the collective Presidency and the federal secretary for internal affairs, Dobroslav Culafic, currently on a visit to Jamahiriyah.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD200954 Tripoli JANA in English 0832 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, Jumada Awal 30, February 20, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The leader of the revolution received yesterday Mr Dobroslav Culafic the member of the Presidency council and the federal secretary for internal affairs in Yugoslavia who handed the leader, during this reception, a sword as a symbolic present.

Mr Dobroslav expressed his complete satisfaction with regard to the development of the strategic cooperation relations between Yugoslavia and Jamahiriyah. He also expressed his appreciation on the level that these relations have reached in various fields.

MOROCCO

Cooperation Minister Defends Treaty With Libya

PM191357 Madrid EL PAIS in Spanish 12 Feb 85 p 4

[Interview with Moroccan Cooperation Minister and Secretary General of the Libyan-Moroccan Union Abdelhuahed Radi by Domingo del Pino in Rabat; date not given]

[Excerpt] Rabat — Question: Algeria and other countries of the region consider that the Libyan-Moroccan union divides the Maghreb even more.

Answer: I do not believe so. There is no contradiction between the Libyan-Moroccan agreement and the treaty signed by Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania. The latter is designed to develop good-neighborly relations, whereas the former goes further and aims at cooperation on an economic and cultural basis. However, this does not mean that any conflict is caused by a country's adhering to both treaties.

Question: It is a fact that tension between Morocco and Algeria has increased since 13 August 1984.

Answer: We all know that the Saharan problem exists between Morocco and Algeria. With or without the Libyan-Moroccan union, matters would have evolved in the same way. It is not the Uxda treaty that caused tension to rise but the actual evolution of the Saharan problem. Within the context of the Uxda accord no initiatives have been taken that could be regarded as hostile.

Question: There are defense agreements.

Answer: What defense agreements?

Question: Those laid down in article 12 of the treaty.

Answer: There are no such defense agreements. There is only a Defense Council, just as there are Economic, Political, and Technological Councils. Within this council the two countries' representatives will coordinate their defense programs.

Question: However, this aspect of the treaty is prompting anxiety in many countries, including Spain. Morocco is a conservative monarchy and Libya is a revolutionary "Jamahiriyah." This alters some of the assumptions regarding defense in the countries neighboring Morocco.

Answer: I do not believe that the Libyan-Moroccan union poses a threat to anyone. Our accord is intended to strengthen union and cooperation with the fraternal country, Libya. As far as Spain is concerned, Morocco shares a long history and interests. Although we are rivals in the commercial and agricultural fields, in other areas we are complementary.

Conflicts are transitory issues and one cannot build policies on them. On the contrary, I believe not only that the union does not go against Spain but that it can benefit it.

Question: How?

Answer: Because there are close bilateral ties between Spain and Morocco, and since Morocco is now uniting closely with Libya there will be a mutual influence between Libya and Spain via Morocco, just as there will be with all Morocco's other partners. There are no historical ties between Spain and Libya, but thanks to Morocco they can now be created.

Question: That is not the nature of Spain's concerns. You are aware, for instance, of Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's statements in Palma de Mallorca about Spanish internal affairs, such as Ceuta and Melilla, NATO, or future Spanish-Israeli relations.

Answer: Any Arab leader would have given an answer similar to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's on the points you mention. No Arab country is pleased about Spain's restoration of diplomatic relations with Israel. As for Ceuta and Melilla, all Arab countries, and even Spanish citizens, believe that they are Moroccan. If you had put this question to Colonel al-Qadhdhafi before the union accord with Morocco he would certainly have said the same. One cannot deduce from these points that Libya is hostile to Spain and that it will communicate its hostility to Morocco.

As far as Ceuta and Melilla are concerned, King Hassan II has said that the solution of the problem can only be political. We will take as long as necessary and will discuss everything necessary to reach a friendly solution. We want Spain to recover its sovereignty over Gibraltar and will follow Spain's own methods with regard to Ceuta and Melilla. Nobody believes that there could be a war between Spain and Britain over Gibraltar, nor do we believe that there could be one over Ceuta and Melilla.

Question: You will agree that the Libyan-Moroccan union is causing some confusion, at least. Morocco wants to join the European Community and has signed military accords with the United States. Libya maintains close relations with the Eastern bloc countries and considers the United States its principal enemy. The fact is that the treaty of union will grant Libya a certain "right" to judge and perhaps influence Morocco's external options.

Answer: There is nothing in the Libyan-Moroccan accord that grants either country the right to judge the other's options. On the contrary, each country pledges not to interfere in the other's internal policy. Both sides also retain their freedom to sign any other agreement with any third country. All that the union requires is a minimum of coordination from the outset, which will certain develop gradually. I assume that when the two countries meet to discuss a problem they will do their utmost to reach a shared stance, but if they do not succeed, each will retain its complete freedom of action.

Question: It is 4 months since the Uxda treaty was signed and Morocco has named its 60 deputies to the joint parliament, whereas Libya has not. Is Morocco in more of a hurry than Libya?

Answer: No, not at all. The point is that procedures differ in the two countries. The 60 Libyan deputies will be appointed by the Libyan General People's Congress, which has 2,500 members

and is in a constituent period. The Congress meets this week and will name the Libyan deputies. Furthermore, King Hassan II and Colonel al-Qadhdhafi have still to approve the union's operational budget. I hope that it will be approved by March, when the union's administrative machinery will begin to work.

Lamrani Consults Parties on Forming New Government

LD162016 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Rabat, 16 Feb (MAP) — The Moroccan paper *AL-'ALAM* reported today that Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani has been charged by His Majesty King Hassan II to form a new government, and that he has received the royal directives concerning the general lines of the government's program.

AL-'ALAM, the Moroccan Istiqlal Party organ, added that Mr Mohammad Karim Lamrani has conveyed the tenor of these directives along with the government's program to the officials of seven political parties in parliament, including the Istiqlal Party. It is worth noting that the Moroccan monarch had asked those parties last November to come foreward with recommendations that would be the basis for a governmental program of action particularly in the fields of national education, agriculture, social affairs, and economics.

AL-'ALAM pointed out that the Istiqlal Party had, at the time, submitted a memorandum containing its views on tackling those issues and stating its ideas for improving administration, mobilizing youth, reinforcing the role of the local elected councils, and culture and information. The paper underlined that all of this stems from the party program approved at its congress and from the ideas that the party defended during the last election campaign.

AL-'ALAM said that the political parties are working hard studying the document that was sent by Mohamed Karim Lamrani in order to submit their replies within the coming days.

Relations With Mauritania Expected To Be Restored

LD171213 Rabat MAP in Arabic 0900 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Paris, 17 Feb (MAP) — An informed Mauritanian source said yesterday in Paris it is expected that a Moroccan high-ranking official delegation will visit Mauritania shortly to complete arrangements for restoring normal relations between the two countries, which were severed in 1981.

The source, who is a Mauritanian very close to official circles, added that the recent visit to Morocco by Mauritanian Interior Minister Lieutenant Colonel Djibril Ould Abdallah "was completely successful and resulted in an agreement between the two countries on the necessary measures to restore the situation to its normal course."

The source revealed that during the visit, the Mauritanian interior minister was received by King Hassan II, had talks with the ministers of the interior, foreign affairs, cooperation, and national education. During these talks they discussed bilateral relations and agreed on steps to begin normalizing relations, including a visit by a Moroccan official delegation to Nouakchott to be followed by the exchange of ambassadors between the two countries.

This source reported that the Mauritanian interior minister said that King Hassan II expressed "Morocco's readiness to start a new stage of fruitful cooperation between the two countries" and his commitment "to begin immediately implementation of joint projects that were agreed but had had been halted because of the severance of diplomatic relations, and also projects that could be agreed in the future".

The source said that among the halted projects are the construction of fish-preserving factories in Nouadhibou on the Mauritanian north coast, "which would help that country in controlling its huge wealth of fisheries", and also projects concerning the construction of educational and religious institutions, which Morocco began to construct at the end of the seventies but have been stopped since 1981.

On the other hand, the same source announced that the Mauritanian Government "has begun contacts with the Polisario to ask it to withdraw a number of military units stationed in the northern region of Mauritania near the borders of the Moroccan Sahara, and also has conducted a number of parallel contacts with the Algerian Government to convince it pressure the Polisario to leave the Mauritanian territories."

The source said the contacts between Algeria and Polisario "are taking place in an atmosphere of secrecy because the Mauritanian Government does not want to create any problems with Algeria or its decision to adopt a neutral policy toward the Sahara conflict to be interpreted as siding with either of the two sides".

The Mauritanian Government, according to this source, "is determined that no military attacks against Moroccan territories will ever, after this day, begin from Mauritanian soil." Also, Mauritanian officials "are repeating in their talks with the Moroccans and the Algerians that if they are not to withdraw their recognition of the SDAR, then the Polisario must be committed to refraining from any attack against Morocco from their bases in Mauritania."

The Mauritanian source considered this as "the first serious test for the new regime — a test of its ability to adopt neutrality and to know the extent of Algerian readiness, and of the Polisario's, which is tied to Algeria, to accept this new position".

The same source stressed that France "is trying to play an effective role in this direction through consolidating the Mauritanian Army in order to enable it to protect and monitor the borders, and also through insistent pursuit to find an understanding formula acceptable to Morocco and Algeria to end their conflict in the Sahara."

Mauritanian Official Arrives With Message

LD192138 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] (Muhammad al-Walid Ould ad-Dad), director of the office of the Mauritanian head of state, has arrived in Morocco. The Mauritanian official said he is carrying a message from Mauritanian President Maouya Sid Ahmed Ould Taya. He said that the message concerns the consultations between Morocco and Mauritania.

He was welcomed on arrival at Sale airport by (Mawlay Ahmad Al-Sharqawi), director of political affairs at the Foreign Ministry, and ('Umar ibn Shaqrun), director of protocol at the same ministry.

SUDAN

Numayri Amends People's Armed Forces' Law

JN201450 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Feb (SUNA) -- President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri yesterday issued a provisional order amending the People's Armed Forces' Law. The amendment authorizes the president of the Republic at any time to attach all or any part of the police force and all or any part of the other regular forces to the People's Armed Forces in the area or place in which these forces are operating.

Numayri Holds Press Conference on Regional Issues

JN201150 Khartoum SUNA in English 1050 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, Jumad Awal, 30 Feb 20 (SUNA) — President Ja'far Numayri yesterday said he had not been officially informed by the United States that it had decided to suspend its aid to Sudan.

Speaking to local and foreign reporters here yesterday, President Numayri said he has no reaction to reports that the United States had suspended its payment of economic assistance to Sudan because we did not receive anything official on that, we only heard it on the BCC and we do not have any confidence in the BBC and other news agencies because they are launching a campaign against Sudan. However, he said he did not think the United States would do such a thing. We think they are our friends and nothing of that will happen from them the president said.

When asked what measures he would take if such reports were true, he said the president of the Republic would submit the matter to his different institutions before taking a decision. I am not a prophet to tell you what is going to happen in the future and I cannot answer for supposition, he told a reporter. Asked about reports that Libya had offered to replace the suspended American economic assistance to Sudan, Numayri said Libya itself needed help. Libya always speaks about financial offers. We hear about that but Libya itself is in need of foreign help. Libya is not rich because its expenditures is more than its income, Numayri said.

Numayri said Libya did not stop contacts with Sudan particularly after we promoted the integration with Egypt because Libya wants to come into the integration but on their own terms. However, Numayri said that Libyan contacts with Sudan was not something new. What is happening between Libya and Sudan is not new and not news. Is it strange that two countries talk about peace? They talked with us when we were against them in Chad and now they (Libya) want us to return to them some Libyans who are here Numayri said. Whenever Libya says anything about Sudan we expect something to happen. Now they have asked us to allow Libyan troops to escort Sudanese returning to Sudan from Libya. That is strange, why should Sudanese coming from Libya be guarded by Libyan troops? Numayri said. He accused Colonel al-Qadhdhafi of planning to overthrow his (Umayri's) government and that of Husni Mubarak of Egypt. Al-Qadhdhafi does not want Numayri to be the leader of Sudan and he wants to change the regimes in both Sudan and Egypt because he (Al-Qadhdhafi) thinks that both Numayri and Mubarak are not qualified to rule. Al-Qadhdhafi wants to be the president of the three countries Libya, Sudan and Egypt, Numayri said.

Numayri appealed to the international community to render relief aid to his country, which he said was hosting nearly 1.5 million refugees while many of his own people were starving and dying from drought.

But he pledged that he would never close his borders against refugees.

"I will never close my borders against refugees because we are Sudanese and are known for sharing our piece of bread with those in need," Numayri said.

He said that if the Ethiopian Government agreed to allow humanitarian organizations to channel relief aid to famine victims in Eritrea and Tigrai, the flow of refugees into Sudan would decrease. "But Ethiopia does not want to do that," he added.

Numayri has said that Sudan is the only country in the Third World that had observed programmes of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

"I think the IMF is coming to believe in our policy and they will talk to the donor countries. We are the only developing country which has never stopped its development projects except where we were compiled to do so, such as in the south, where some development projects were halted by outlaws," Numayri said.

Numayri said that Saudi Arabia is an influential member of the IMF. "Saudi Arabia is an Arab and a friendly state which always renders assistance to Sudan," he added.

At the outset of his press conference, Numayri gave the following statement: "Good morning, ladies and gentlemen, and thank you for coming here this morning. It is not often that my country is the focus of international attention. While we have much to do in our efforts, we have welcomed nearly 1.5 million refugees to the Sudan, and we welcome the attention you are giving to Africa in this moment of crisis."

"I know that you all are travelling throughout the Sudan to document the efforts, not only of many countries, but of agencies. I know also that you are talking with many of the specialists in my government about all the facts and figures of these combined efforts, so I will not be technical this morning," he said. Natural disaster is the history of mankind. Before it is ended, millions will have died, and the effect will be felt for generations," he added.

"There are no easy solutions. But it is a problem for all mankind. The international community has been extremely generous to the refugees, and their needs are far greater than the resources of my government; and each day it gets more difficult. Many of my own people are starving and dying from the drought. For three years the rains have not come, and our harvests have been less and less. A vicious cycle has begun. It is said that we are only one season behind the catastrophe in Ethiopia," he explained.

"But at the same time, God has given us a large and resilient country. We have areas where the drought has not been so catastrophic; and if we get the rain and also assistance to bring the water from under the ground and from the rivers that are still full...then you will see the great land we really have. It is flat. It can be made fertile and abundant," he added.

"So I want to tell you today that Sudan will continue to welcome refugees from famine and war and want. We will continue to have open borders, despite the terrible problem we have ourselves, because we have hope, there is a promise. With God willing and with humanitarian help from your countries, we can meet the emergency we can build our future, and we can continue to share whatever blessings we have with our brothers who come here in need," he concluded.

President Numayri Expounds on Problems in South

JN201049 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, Jumada Awal 30 Feb 20 (SUNA) — President Ja'far Numayri declared that south Sudan problem cannot be solved through fighting which he described as a 'guerrilla warfare in which there is neither a victor nor a defeated party.'

Numayri told reporters here yesterday that he was willing to sit down for negotiations with rebels leader John Garang or any other person provided that such a person demonstrates sincereity and interest in national constitution.

He said it was incorrect to link the south Sudan problem to that of Eritrea because he said the south is part of the Sudan while Eritrea was annexed by the United Nations Organization as a mandate to Ethiopia.

Sudan, he reiterated, is willing to host Eritrean refugees and offer them every possible aid.

President, UK Minister Discuss Refugees

JN181918 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1750 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Feb (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has stressed Sudan's policy to provide shelter for the refugees and exert every effort to solve their daily problems. This came during his reception of Timothy Raison, British minister for overseas development [title as received], and his delegation currently visiting the country to acquaint itself with the country's need to confront the current economic circumstances that resulted from drought, desertification, and the daily influx of refugees across its eastern and western borders.

The president explained Sudan's viewpoint regarding the refugee problem to Raison. He said there is a short-term solution in which food, clothes, and medicine should be secured and a long-term solution in which development projects should be established to secure food and self-sufficiency for the refugees. He also pointed out that the long-term solution requires financial aid, studied plans, and the international community's assistance until the problem is solved. Raison conveyed British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's greetings to the president. The meeting was attended by Dr Baha' al-Din Muhammad Idris, the president's assistant for presidential affairs, and the British ambassador in Khartoum.

In another development 'Bbas Musa, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry, discussed with Raison this morning the condition of refugees on Sudan's eastern and western borders and Sudan's efforts to provide shelter for them despite the problems of drought that Sudan is suffering. The meeting also dealt with coordination of foreign aid to relieve and resettle the refugees as well as with Sduan's efforts to overcome the consequences of drought and desertification in the short, intermediate, and long terms.

Numayri Condemns Libyan Offer for Extradition

JN191838 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri today accused Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi of offering to pay 6 billion Sudanese pounds in exchange for the extradition of Libyan opposition elements in Sudan. He said that this Libyan offer made him search for the Libyan refugees in Sudan in order to ensure their safety.

People's Assembly Endorses Policy Statement

JN181825 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Khartoum, 18 Feb (SUNA) — The People's National Assembly in its session under the chairmanship of the House Speaker 'Izz al-Din al-Sayyid approved today the statement that was delivered by the chairman of the political foreign affairs committee Dr. Malik Husayn pertaining to the latest attitude in the Palestinian arena, Lebanon and Gulf war. The communique reaffirmed that the Palestinian question is assuming prominent position in the Arab and international policy. The communique

indicated that a number of Arab countries exploit the Palestinian issue to justify their suppression for the internal revolts.

Husayn said Sudan is continuously working to assure the independence of the Palestinian determination.

Dr. Husayn expressed his regret over the withdrawal of some Palestinians from the Palestinian decision adding that several initiatives for solving the question were presented but failed to achieve positive objective because they were directed for achieving personal goals.

Husayn explained that some Arab governments support the Zionist entity by hitting the Palestinian resistance, adding Syria intervened [in] Lebanon claiming that it wanted to face Israel but its goal was the occupation of Lebanon despite Syria did not manage to face the Zionist invasion, he said.

In his communique Dr. Malik pointed out that Syria's collaboration with Iran in the Gulf war is weakening to the Arab resistance and [is an] infringement to the Arab joint defence and affirmed Sudan's support for it to establish a federal state between Jordan and Palestine after regaining the occupied Arab terriitories including Jerusalem. The assembly members discussed the communique pointing out that the Palestinian problem has become a cause of intervention by the superpowers. The members called on the Arab states to overcome their differences so as to solve the Palestinian problem and limit Israeli expansionist policies in the Arab territories. The members hailed the role played by Sudan in defending the Palestinian right under the leadership of PLO.

The People's Assembly has today resumed work by holding its 27th sitting of the fourth session in which the assembly leader presented a report on the budgets of Rahad Agricultural Corporation, West Savanna Development Corporation and Agricultural Research Corporation for the year 1985. The speaker of the assembly had transfered the aforesaid budgets to the committee of economy, planning and budget to prepare a report so as to be submitted to the assembly. The assembly heard the reply of the state minister for finance for a question raised by a member on the measurements related to retired pays particularly pensions.

Books by Taha, Republican Followers Burned
JN191744 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1725 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 19 Feb (SUNA) — Fifty thousand copies of 200 books written by Mahmud Muhammad Taha and his republican followers were burned here at noon today. Hasan Ibrahim al-Mahlawi, judge of Criminal Court No 4, who witnessed the burning, said that it was carried out in implementation of the Court of Appeals decision to deface and burn Mahmud Muhammad Taha's books, considering them to contain corrupt beliefs. He added that these books were collected from Mahmud's house and those of his republican followers. He expressed hope that the regional authorities will also collect and burn all the republicans' books under the supervision of their excellencies the judges.

SPLA Radio: Opposition Leader Speaks on Anniversary
EA152127 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Speech by Colonel Dr John Garang de Mabior on the founding of the Sudan People's Liberation Army, and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement; date, place not given — read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Nationalists, patriots, comrades, fellow countrymen: The history of the Sudanese people from time immemorial has been the struggle of the mass of the people against internal and external oppression. The oppressor has time and again employed various policies and methods of destroying or weakening the just struggle of our people, including that most notorious policy of divide and rule. To this end the oppressor has divided the Sudanese people into northerners and southerners. In the north itself they have classified our people into westerners, easterners and (faawin) and the so-called awlad al-balad [children of the country], who have hitherto wielded political power in Khartoum, while in the south the people have been politicized along tribal lines, resulting in such ridiculous slogans as dinka unity, greater equatoria, (?bari status), luo unity, et cetera. The oppressor has also divided us into Muslims and Christians, into Arabs and Africans. Tomorrow, when these divisions become our baby, the oppressor will contrive other ingenious schemes for keeping the Sudanese people in their just struggle divided and weak.

Fellow countrymen, it was therefore natural that secessionist movements and chauvinistic tendencies developed in different periods in different areas of Sudan, thereby jeopardizing the unity of the people and prolonging their suffering and struggle.

The Sudan People's Liberation Army, the SPLA, has been founded to spearhead armed resistance against Numayri's one-man [words indistinct] and to organize the whole Sudanese people under the Sudan People's Liberation Movement, SPLM. Through revolutionary protracted armed struggle waged by the SPLA and political mass mobilization by the SPLM we shall bring to a final end all the various schemes the oppressor has used to divide and weaken the Sudanese people and thereupon prevent [words indistinct] fragmentation of the country.

In 1956 our country gained formal independence and entered the era and neocolonialism. Since then a small parasitic clique that has [words indistinct] from pre-independence system of exploitation took over the formal instruments of oppression in the form of the state for their own interests and against the interests of the majority of the Sudanese people. This clique has utilized the majority of the Sudanese people. This clique has utilized the multiracial and multireligious character of the Sudanese society to perpetuate their rule and to keep our people underdeveloped and backward.

Fellow countrymen, the new colonial system that has developed in our country since 1956 and represented by Numayrism since 1969 is a regime in which a few people have amassed great wealth at the expense of the majority. This injustice has resulted in profound crisis and distortions in our economy, politics, ethics

and even religions, which Numayri has converted into an article on faith. A few of the system's crisis problems include:

1. The general fall of production and productivity, especially of essential commodities such as dhurrah [sorghum], wheat, and sugar;

2. The mounting rate of unemployment that has resulted especially in instability and emigration;

3. Hyperinflation, currency problems and foreign indebtedness amounting to $10 billion and the subsequent entrenchment of dependence relations;

4. An acute inadequacy and deterioration of social services in the whole country and particularly the rural area;

5. The general social and moral bankruptcy that is reflected in the institutionalization of corruption and bribery. The daily fear by any Sudanese of being apprehended by agents of the state security organization and the absurd institution of [word indistinct]. This crisis and many others have plunged the overwhelming majority of the people throughout the country into abasement of poverty and suffering from which no end could be sighted unless and until this one-man system of Numayri that threatens to drown the nation is destroyed in its entirety.

Fellow countrymen, the general exploitation, oppression and neglect of the Sudanese people by successive Khartoum clique regimes took peculiar forms in the southern part of the country. Firstly, racial and religious segregation was much more intensely meted out and reflected in southern Sudan than in any other part of the country. Secondly, development plans in the south such as (Milut and Mangla) sugar industry [words indistinct] and (Mangla) textile et cetera remain on paper as development funds were [word indistinct] in Khartoum while southern region government watched on in impotence or participated in the loot. Development schemes that were implemented in the south were those that did not benefit the local population, such as extraction of oil from bentiu, (?the other) Chevron projects and extraction of water (?for the) (?agwei) Jonglei canal.

The following provocations precipitated renewed civil war in the Sudan:

1. Numayri systematically started to dismantle the Addis Ababa agreement. He single-handedly and unconstitutionally dissolved southern asemblies and governments one after the other in 1980, 1981 and 1983.

2. He signed an unconstitutional integration treaty with Egypt to protect himself against insurrections in the south or any other part of the Sudan.

3. He unconstitutionally and unsuccessfully tried to change the boundaries of the southern region, there since the 1980 people's regional government act. By this way he wanted to deprive the south of mineral riches and prime agricultural land, such as [names indistinct] northern upper Nile, Bentiu, et cetera. Natural resources wherever they are found in the Sudan belong to the whole Sudanese people. The location of these resources in the south do not register any negative connotation the suspicions in the minds of a true Sudanese patriot and nationalist. [sentence as heard]

But Numayri (?selfishly) agitated to the extent of attempting to legislate the formal exclusion of these areas from the south. Such behavior can only be explained by Numayri's half-hearted belief in Sudanese unity, his belief in the hegemony of clique's chauvinism and his mistrust of southern Sudanese.

Again, when Chevron Company discovered oil in 1978, Numayri started to talk about oil finds 450 miles south-west of Khartoum, instead of telling the truth that oil was in Bentiu in southern Sudan and that it belongs to the whole Sudanese people. He continued to urge [as heard] more transparent tricks when he talked about carving his so-called unity province to include Bentiu, Abyei,and Kadugli with himself as the oil governor. When this failed he came up with another scheme to build the refinery in Kosti instead of Bentiu. Finally he ended up by deciding that all the oil he wants to be piped out of the country at Port Sudan against the interests of the Sudanese people whether in the south or north. [sentence as heard]

5. [number as heard] Numayri completed the abrogation of the Addis Ababa agreement by agitating for the division of south Sudan into three mini-regions consistent with his policy of divide and rule. In this Numayri went against the considered advice of his senior Army officers. He unilaterally proclaimed redivision of the south in June 1983 to the consternation of even his foreign supervisors.

6. In all his provocations there was an important catch for Numayri; as the old adage says [words indistinct] rogues end up outwitting themselves. In 1972 Numayri agreed to absorb 6,000 Anyanya guerrillas into his army and to be stationed in the south. The absorbed Anyanya had opposed Numayri's policy since 1972, and they were increasingly becoming an obstacle to his schemes. He therefore decided to crush the absorbed Anyanya forces by summarily transferring them to the north, where they could be neutralized. In this Numayri was an utter failure. He failed to deceive the south into abandoning armed resistance.

JANA: Rebels Control Equatoria, Other Areas

LD191500 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1440 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Tripoli, 19 Feb (JANA) — JANA has learned that the Sudanese People's Liberation Army is fully in control of many positions in southern Sudan and that these forces now occupy the town of Waw in the Upper Nile region and that they are in full control of Equatoria region.

ETHIOPIA

Addis Ababa on Sudan University Closure, U.S. Aid Halt

EA181916 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] The Sudanese Government yesterday closed Khartoum University indefinitely. Political observers today said that the closure of Khartoum University is a sign that the 16-year-old Numayri regime is facing a critical political crisis. Reports reaching us say that there were severe clashes for 2 days last week at Khartoum University between supporters and opposition groups of the Sudanese Government. It was reported that at the time of the clash, posters demanding the restoration of democracy in Sudan and condemning the crimes being perpetrated by the fascist Sudanese regime were placed on the university walls and fences.

The major reason for the clash among the university students was the sentencing to death of Muhammad Taha, who was the principal opponent of President Numayri's Shari'a law. It has been reported that the Numayri regime is faced with heavy opposition from the southern part of the country.

In another development, America has stopped the aid approved as part of the efforts to alleviate the Sudanese Government's economic crisis due to the Sudanese Government's failure to use it for its intended purposes.

Eritrean Claims Forced Government Conscription

GF161200 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1040 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Doha, 16 Feb (WAKH) — An Eritrean official has stated that Ethiopia has imposed conscription on Eritrean youth to face the revolutionaries of the unified Eritrean Liberation Army which was formed recently after the merger in January between the Popular Liberation Forces, the Revolutionary Council, and the Revolutionary Committee of the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF) — the unified organization.

Osman Mohammed Abu Bakr, ELF representative to the Gulf, who is currently visiting Doha to brief Qatari officials on the unity steps made recently, made a statement to QNA. He said: Ethiopia executed 17 Eritrean young men in the Asmara prison last week for refusing to be conscripted into the Ethiopian Army to fight the Eritrean revolutionaries. He said this execution meant Eritrean youth between ages 17 and 35 must join the unified Eritrean Liberation Army. Abu Bakr added: Ethiopia is mobilizing 150,000 Ethiopian soldiers equipped with the most sophisticated weapons and equipment received recently via Massawa port to launch the eighth military campaign against the Eritrean people to liquidate their cause and impose military solutions on them.

Abu Bakr noted that the human, food, and other material aid that Ethiopia received recently to ease drought and famine has been used for Ethiopia's war efforts against the Eritrean people. This, he said, made Ethiopia leave Eritreans and other drought-stricken Ethiopian nationalities either to die of starvation without giving them aid or to seek refuge in neighboring countries, including Sudan, where Ethiopian refugees now number more than 1.5 million people. He said 500 Eritrean refugees immigrate to Sudan every day to escape drought and famine. The refugees are chased by Ethiopian planes as they make their way to Sudan. More than 150 of them have been killed in the area of (Hekota).

Briefs

New Envoy From DPRK— The newly appointed DPRK ambassador to revolutionary Ethiopia, Comrade (Sok Tae-uk) stated that the DPRK sincerely believed that revolutionary Ethiopia's ongoing process of construction in all sectors for her peoples peace, justice, equality, and prosperity were correct, and the DPRK followed them closely. He added that the DPRK was ready to further strengthen her support and cooperation by further enhancing her solidarity. Comrade (Sok Tae-uk) stated this in his speech when he presented his letters of credence to Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, Provisional Military Administrative Council chairman, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces. Present at the ceremony, held at our comrade revolutionary leader's office at the Great Palace, was Comrade Goshu Wolde, Politburo member of the WPE Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs. [Excerpts] [*Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 15 Feb 85 EA*]

KENYA

Finance Minister Says More Foreign Aid Needed

EA191917 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Kenya estimates that it will need additional aid, especially in 1986, and has requested donor countries to consider restructuring their aid to be given at a faster rate than at present. Making the request on behalf of the government, the finance and planning minister, Prof George Saitoti, said that the present economic difficulties arising from last year's drought are likely to continue for some time. The minister was speaking to the Danish Parliamentary Committee of Foreign Relations, which arrived in Nairobi yesterday.

SEYCHELLES

Soviet Delegation Received by President Rene

AB191628 Paris AFP in French 1503 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Victoria, 19 Feb (AFP) — A Soviet delegation, which is in the Seychelles to discuss bilateral cooperation between Moscow and Victoria, held talks with the Seychelles president, France-Albert Rene, in Victoria on Tuesday morning.

The delegation, which arrived on Monday, is led by Aleksey Shvedov, chief of the First African Department at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs. It will hold discussions with various Seychelles authorities before leaving for Madagascar on Friday.

In the past 2 years, Soviet assistance to the Seychelles amounted to $7.5 million, mostly in the form of supplies of oil, machinery, and construction materials.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan: Attacks Launched in Galdogob Region

EA161513 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Reports from the base of 15th Gorod Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] in Balumbale say units of the Gorod Division launched a bitter attack on the base of the regime's forces near (Gur Eel) in the Galdogob region, central Somalia, killing 35 and wounding 45 loyalist troops. In their daring attacks, the heroic fighters of the 15th Gorod Division of the DFSS inflicted heavy material losses on the loyalist Barre troops at the (Gur Eel) base, through which the main road linking southern and northern Somalia passes.

The units which took part in the attack destroyed large quantities of military hardware, including a jeep mounted with a 106-mm antitank gun. They also destroyed ammunition dumps.

Units of the 15th Gorod Division of the DFSS recently launched successive victorious attacks against (Gur Eel). In one of them, which took place between 5-6 February, they killed 82 and wounded 89 loyalist soldiers, and destroyed and captured large quantities of weapons.

UGANDA

DPRK Agricultural Experts To Establish Farm

EA192141 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] A team of technical experts from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has arrived in Uganda to establish an agricultural experimental farm at (Mubuki), near Kasese town. Their main task will be to complete the river diversion work that will ensure adequate irrigation water for the experimental farm.

Receiving the experts yesterday, the minister of state for agriculture and forestry, Dr Rubaihayo, also expressed the hope that by the time they leave Uganda, they will have produced enough horticultural (?seeds) for the country. He assured them of full cooperation by research officers in the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

The team leader, Mr (Yi Sae-ho), promised that they will do their best to develop improved farming methods. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has already delivered two tractors and farm implements for this work.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Recently Dismissed High Commissioner Arrested

AB151315 Paris AFP in French 1249 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Bangui, 15 Feb (AFP) — Francois Gueret, who was dismissed Wednesday from his job as high commissioner in charge of state enterprises and joint ventures, was arrested by security forces in Bangui on Thursday morning, it was learned from an official source in the CAR capital Friday.

Mr Gueret is still being interrogated at the police station in Bangui 24 hours after his arrest. The CAR authorities have not given any official reason for the arrest, which has not been made public.

An official source has however indicated that Mr Gueret is believed to be involved in "a quarrel between some persons" within the CAR administration. It is believed that he is also being blamed for failing "to be in solidarity with the government" during the past few months. According to another official source, attempts are being made to minimize the importance of the affair and it is stressed that Mr Guerret might be released within the next few days.

CONGO

Angolan Envoy Meets With Fisheries Minister

MB190709 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Jose Agostinho Neto, Angolan ambassador to the Congo, was received recently by Dr Ossebi Douniam, Congolese minister of fisheries, with whom he discussed the accord the Congolese official had signed with Angolan Minister of Fisheries Emilio Guerra. The two officials also discussed the sea fishing accord to be signed by the two countries in Luanda when the Angolan-Congolese joint commission meets from 26 to 29 [as heard].

GABON

Incumbants Eliminated in First Round of Elections

AB191800 Paris AFP in English 1739 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Banjul, Feb 19 (AFP) — The first round of Gabon's parliamentary elections held Sunday eliminated 49 out of 84 incumbents seeking reelection, Minister for Territorial Administration Richard Nguema-Bekale said here today.

In the first round voting only officials of the country's sole political party, the Gabonese Democratic Party, were allowed to vote for the 111 elected members of the new parliament. The previous legislature had 93 members. The 111 candidates chosen Sunday were selected out of a total of 268 names put forward by party members and approved by the Politburo.

The population as a whole will vote to approve or disapprove the 111 candidates during a second round of polling next Sunday. In addition to the 111 elected deputies, President Omar Bongo will appoint another nine members to the new 120-seat parliament. Mr Bekale said polling Sunday had been calm.

ZAIRE

Kengo Calls for 'Social Pact' To Support Austerity

AB181632 Paris AFP in English 1419 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Kinshasa, Feb 18 (AFP) — Premier Kengo Wa Dondo of Zaire has called on the country's employers and unions to enter into a "social pact" with the government in support of tough austerity measures imposed with the backing of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Mr Kengo was quoted by state (?radio as) telling a tripartite meeting of employers, labor representatives and government officials over the weekend that he did not want workers' deteriorating purchasing power to lead to disruptive industrial actions. He told the sole legal union, the National Union of Zairean Workers (UNTZA), to "inform workers about the various internal and external constraints" placed on the country's firms. "The implementation of the recovery efforts, like the program concluded with the IMF, must be everyone's affair," he added.

The tripartite discussions, which are scheduled to last a month, follow a series of strikes in the banking and transport industry sparked by labor demands for wage increases to counter recent hikes in the prices of essential goods.

While admitting that the IMF-inspired austerity program had led to job cuts and reduced purchasing power, Mr Kengo (?said the) government would continue its efforts to drastically lower inflation, "restore the credibility of the state" and reestablish convertibility of the national currency, the Zaire.

The austerity program has included an 80 percent devaluation of the zaire, cutbacks in government employment and stiff price increases for essential goods previously subsidized by the government. It was imposed at IMF insistance as a condition for a 15-month, 350-million-dollars aid package signed in January 1984. Zaire has also requested rescheduling of its five billion dollar foreign debt.

Mr Kengo said the program had led to an eight-fold increase in private investment applications between 1983 and 1984 to 125 million dollars. State investment in 1985 of 650 million dollars would also be "significantly" higher than previous years, he added.

Legislative Council Head Leaves on UK Visit

AB182041 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1657 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 18 Feb (AZAP) — Citizen Kassongo Mukundji, member of the Central Committee and the Political Bureau, as well as president of the Legislative Council, left Kinshasa today for London on a 15-day official visit to Great Britain at the invitation of the British Government. Citizen Kassongo, who is expected to pass through Brussels, is being accompanied by his wife. The Legislative Council president is also being accompanied on his tour by Citizens Atiwiya and Ndikpo, permanent undersecretary and adviser, respectively. He was seen off by Citizens Kalume and Bomandeke, the first and second vice presidents, as well as by the members of the Executive Board of the Legislative Council.

Chilean Envoy Meets With Mokolo 14 Feb

AB151725 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1150 GMT 14 Feb 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 14 Feb (AZAP) — Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo, state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, on Thursday in his office received Jorge Iglesias, Chilean charge d'affaires in Zaire, who paid him a courtesy visit.

After the visit, the Chilean diplomat told newsmen that it is in the interest of Zaire and his country to develop their relations. For this reason, he said, he will use his stay in Zaire to bring the two countries together because they have a lot to do within the framework of bilateral cooperation.

Jorge Iglesias pointed out that the Chilean president is very interested in the political and economic development of Zaire. He added that he and Citizen Mokolo wa Mpombo discussed issues connected with the invitations from his country's president to Marshal Mobutu and to Citizen Nyiwa Mobutu, secretary of state for foreign affairs, to make official visits to Santiago with a view to expanding friendly relations of cooperation between the two countries. In the meantime, Jorge Iglesias said, diplomatic relations between Zaire and Chile are at the charges d'affaires level. He added that his country wants these relations to be upgraded to the ambassadorial level.

Concerning last year's copper production, the Chilean diplomat did not disclose to newsmen the volume of copper produced and exported by his country in 1984. He stressed that it is in the interest of Zaire and Chile — both member-countries of the Intergovernmental Council of Copper-Exporting Countries (CIPEC) — to work together within this framework. He noted that the Chilean minister of mines is current chairman of CIPEC and that Zaire is current secretary general at the permanent office of CIPEC.

Ambassadors Lema Mvunda and Bofunga Wayoko, respectively deputy director of state protocol and director of the "America, Asia, and Oceania" Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, were also present at the audience.

Military Officers Assume Command of New Posts

AB181832 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1648 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Excerpt] Kisangani, 18 Feb (AZAP) — General Mukobo Munsende Popol'o, the chief of staff of the Zairian land force, last week presided over an important military parade at Sergeant Ketele Camp. During the ceremony, Colonel Shabani, Colonel Budja Mabe, and Lieutenant Colonel Elela took over from General Danga, Colonel Ewango, and Colonel Muleli as new commanders of the Third Military region, the Fourth Military District, and the 41st Brigade of the elite commando and the Kapalata Military Training Center, respectively.

Briefs

New Envoy to France — Sakombi Inongo, former Zairian information minister, has just been appointed Zaire's ambassador to France, official sources announced in Kinshasa on Saturday. From 1970 to 1972, the new Zairian ambassador to France was minister of information and government spokesman. He was also a member of the Political Bureau in 1973, a parliamentarian in 1974, and governor of the city of Kinshasa in 1976. From 1979 to 1980, he held the post of secretary general of the youth wing of the MPR before being posted to the office of the president of the Republic of Zaire from 1980 to 1983. Mr Sakombi was again at the head of the Information Ministry from 1983 until early February 1985, when the Cabinet was reshuffled. [Excerpts] [*Dakar AZAP/PANA in French 1035 GMT 10 Feb 85 AB*]

CEEAC Head Named Ambassador — Lunda Bulula, secretary general of the Economic Community of Central African States (CEEAC) was on Saturday elevated to the rank of ambassador by Zairian head of state Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko. The elevation of Mr Lunda to ambassadorial rank into the diplomatic corps is justified by the important duties he is performing within the CEEAC. In December 1984, Mr Lunda was appointed secretary general of the CEEAC, which has its headquarters in Libreville, Gabon. A legal practioner by profession, Mr Lunda was, before his appointment to this post, an adviser in the office of the head of state. [Excerpts] [*Dakar AZAP/PANA in French 1032 GMT 10 Feb 85 AB*]

French Transport Loan — France's state-owned Central Economic Cooperation Bank (CCCE) is to lend Zaire 300 million francs (30.5 million dollars) for the central African country's transport network it was announced at the French Embassy here today. Just under half (125 million francs) will go to the state transport office and about one-third (105 million francs) to the urban public transport company. The remaining 70 million francs will be loaned to the Zairian National Railway Company, which runs the railways serving key mining regions in the southeastern Province of Shaba. [Text] [*Paris AFP in French 1323 GMT 8 Feb 85 AB*]

BENIN

Kerekou Addresses Businessmen on Economic Problems

AB171110 Paris AFP in French 0742 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] [No dateline as received] Beninese head of state General Mathieu Kerekou this morning in Cotonou met with foreign and national businessmen operating in Benin. This meeting, to which heads of diplomatic missions in Cotonou were invited, was aimed, as the Beninese head of state termed it, "at studying the critical and alarming economic situation" of the country in order "to determine how and where the businessmen can intervene."

In this context, President Kerekou, in his opening speech, criticized the development of the tertiary sector to the detriment of the primary and secondary sectors, which, he stated, "constitute the only way to a real economic development" in Benin. According to President Kerekou, the difficulties confronting businessmen stem from the fact that their activities are only limited to the tertiary sector.

He therefore exhorted them to diversify their activities and to actually help in the promotion of agricultural and industrial development with concrete and effective actions, instead of limiting themselves to import and export activities.

In response to this appeal, businessmen, along with some government representatives, have formed commissions in order to draw up a program of action that will define the areas of intervention in the socioeconomic development of the country.

BURKINA

OAU's Onu Meets Sankara, Comments on Talks

AB192200 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpts] Visiting OAU Interim Secretary General Peter Onu was received late this morning by Comrade Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution (CNR) and president of the Faso. Following the audience, he was interviewed by the press, which wanted to know the subject of his talks with the president of the Faso:

[Begin recording] [Onu in English fading into French translation] I was received along with my delegation by the president of Burkina Faso to whom I explained the purpose of my visit. In fact, one of the problems we found here is the drought. I also briefed the president on our activities and on the upcoming economic summit scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa in conformity with the resolutions adopted by the heads of state last November in Addis Ababa.

[Unidentified reporter] For some time now you have embarked on a tour of certain drought-stricken African countries. Just recently you visited the north of our country. What is your assessment of the food situation in these countries, especially in our country?

[Onu] As you know, I have visited a great number of Sahel countries. As you also know, a large number of African countries have been hit by the drought; but very little is said about all these countries. But here in Burkina Faso in particular, I have visited the Province of Yentenga and was happy to realize that in spite of all the difficulties facing the people, they want to help themselves first.

[Reporter] At the last OAU summit, a special fund to help the Sahel countries affected by the drought was set up. Have member countries already contributed to the fund?

[Onu] As you know, pledges were made at the last summit. Libya and Algeria promised to pay $10 million each. Recently, the Federal Republic of Nigeria promised $5 million. For our part, we have appealed to the Nonaligned Movement through its current chairman, the Indian prime minister, so that he, too, would try to raise funds, because the fund is not to be raised or contributed to by Africans alone. Non-Africans must contribute as well.

[Reporter] At the last OAU summit, Morocco withdrew from the organization while Zaire suspended its participation. Have they already expressed the desire to come back into the organization?

[Onu] As you are aware, the OAU is for all member states, all independent African states. But if a state happens to withdraw or to suspend its participation and wishes to join the organization again, it is clear that this state will be welcomed.

[Reporter] We do not know if there are statutes which (?prevent) this. But will you be ready to try to obtain the post of secretary general?

[Onu] Well, I think there are no such statutes. As you will understand, I think that a normal person, a competent person, can do the job. But because of our colonial past, we are obliged to speak in terms of English-speakers and French-speakers. But I think what is important is that an able African must be chosen to do the work whether he is a French-speaker, an English-speaker, a Portuguese-speaker, or an Arabic-speaker. The only important thing is that he must be African. [end recording]

GAMBIA

Buhari Visits Banjul, Announces Donation to OAU Fund

AB191604 Paris AFP in English 1504 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Banjul, Feb 19 (AFP) — Visiting Nigerian President Major General Muhammadu Buhari has announced that his government will contribute five million dollars to a special fund created by the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to help drought stricken states on the continent.

Speaking during a banquet late yesterday offered by Gambian President Sir Dawda Jawara, Maj Gen Buhari also joined his host in calling for greater regional cooperation in West Africa. The two leaders also stressed the need to boost bilateral links.

Maj Gen Buhari arrived here Sunday for a three-day official visit during which he attended ceremonies marking Gambia's 20th independence day.

GHANA

Rawlings on Government Alienation From People

AB151850 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Jerry John Rawlings, today expressed serious concern that the alienation of government from the people, which was the practice in the past, is gradually creeping back into the system and, as a result, individual Ghanaians do not effectively contribute to the national effort for the reconstruction program.

The chairman was the guest speaker at a ceremony in Accra to mark the first anniversary of the Greater Accra Region Consultative Council. Flight Lt Rawlings said the mystification of government, which he spoke against at the beginning of the revolution, is coming back to us with individual Ghanaians failing to their duty as partners in the struggle against the enemies of the revolutionary process. Chairman Rawlings said, given the way the game is being played, the news media see themselves concerned with only people at the top without any interest in the grassroot structure. He said he as the head of state has no right to impose his beliefs on the people. What must be done must be done on the terms of the people. Individual participation, the chairman stressed, is very important because, after all, it is the sum total of individual effort that makes the collective effort meaningful. He said the Ghanaian concept of democracy and participatory interchange should derive meaning only from Ghanaians waking up, not to seek their own interests but that of the masses.

Ghana's high commissioner to Canada and a member of the National Economic Review Committee, Dr Joe Abbey, reinforced what the chairman said and pointed out that the regional consultative council provides a communication channel between the government and the masses. He said all Ghanaians should see themselves as a part of the fold. Dr Abbey called for a better intercourse between the council and the government machinery.

IVORY COAST

President Comments on Causes of Economic Crisis

AB161330 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 15 Feb 85 pp 24, 25

[Excerpts] Some teachers merely teach. That is not only what we need in Ivory Coast; first and foremost, be educators because you stand in much of the time for the families of most our children.... But in carrying out your noble task, shun hatred and develop love in patience and tolerance.

This, in short, is what President Houphouet-Boigny said after a lenghty talk on Wednesday with a delegation of secondary school teachers. The 104-member strong delegation comprised representatives of the national bureau of their trade union, members of the governing council, and regional secretaries general of the union. They had held an exchange of views at the Yamoussoukro scientific grammer school.

The president gave a 3-hour history lesson to our teachers. He told them of all the problems our continent faced (from colonization to independence, including the setting up of the OAU, the RDA [African Democratic Rally], OCAM [Afro Malagasy and Mauritian Common Organization], UMOA [West African Monetary Union], CEAO [Economic Community of West Africa], ECOWAS, the Entente Council, Air Afrique airline and so on). He said the difficulties were born out of misunderstandings on the part of some partners. He added that no solution is possible for Africa without tolerance, patience, and understanding.

The father of the nation explained at length the causes of the economic crisis seriously affecting our country and its consequences which are being felt by everyone, including the teachers themselves, who have already lost their free accomodation benefit. "The crisis in Ivory Coast," the president said, "is essentially due to the deterioration in the terms of trade, the soaring rate of the dollar, the oil boom, and the drought. We are losing part of our agricultural production. The little we harvest is sold cheaply, our debts have increased by two-, even three-fold, and, of course, our purchasing power has been reduced considerably." In the face of this situation, the president said, we must close ranks in peace and mutual understanding because "we must make a lot of sacrifices at all levels."

Minister Meets With CSSR Trade Delegation

AB182057 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] A four-man CSSR Government trade delegation arrived in our country on Saturday 16 February. This morning at the Abidjan International Trade Center, the delegation held a working session with the minister of commerce, Nicholas Kouandi-Angba. After the working session, Stefan Lazerek, leader of the Czechoslovak delegation, told our reporter Eloi Picar Kore the purpose of his visit:

[Begin Lazerek recording] We are in your country at the head of this delegation to launch the Czechoslovak trade mission in Ivory Coast. Last year, in September 1984, we established diplomatic relations between our two countres. In 1982, we signed the first trade agreement between the CSSR and Ivory Coast. To make this trade agreement concrete, we want to develop economic relations between the two countries. This is the reason why we are here. This will enable us to have direct contacts with trade representatives in your country. [end recording]

We must say that the volume of trade between the two countries has increased considerably from 1977 to 1983 as the following figures show: 2.153 billion CFA francs in 1977; 2.937 billion CFA francs in 1978; 4.946 billion CFA francs in 1982; and 4.747 billion CFA francs in 1983. This steady growth is due to the increase of Ivorian imports from Czechoslovakia. What does

Czechoslovakia sell to Ivory Coast and what does Ivory Coast sell to Czechoslovakia? Mr Lazerek answers:

[Begin recording] We import from your country cocoa, coffee, and tropical timber in large quantities. Concerning Czechoslovak exports to your country, they consist of textiles, some jewelry, glass products, and so on. I think that we do not know enough about each other. There is a lack of information, and the aim of this trade mission is to provide the necessary information. We can organize visits of Ivorian trade missions to Czechoslovakia and Czechoslovaks can come here. They will try to find the means of improving economic relations between our two countries, [end recording]

It will be noted that the Czechoslovak delegation will leave Abidjan on Wednesday for Conakry, Guinea.

LIBERIA

Probate Court Rules in Favor of Unity Party

AB191055 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0655 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Rulings have been handed down in favor of the Unity Party by the probate court on the law issues involving the two objections filed recently by (Mabel Al Boley) and Daniel (Clewer) against the probation of documents submitted by the party. Judge Thompson told both parties in the case that the court's rulings were based on relevant legal [word indistinct] by counselors of both objectors and respondents respectively, including PRC [People's Redemption Council] Decree No 75. He dismissed the objections filed by (Al Bolye) and Daniel (Clewer) and said the arguments of incorporation of the respondent Unity Party are hereby ordered probated and registered according to law.

The court said that the Unity Party could not be held responsible for any act or omission [words indistinct].

NIGERIA

Buhari Returns From Gambia; Joint Communique Issued

AB192144 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, returned to Lagos today at the end of his 3-day state visit to the Gambia.

Before leaving the Gambian capital, Gen Buhari and his host signed a joint communique on the outcome of the bilateral talks held on his arrival in Banjul last Sunday. The communique expressed satisfaction with the existing state of bilateral cooperation, particularly in the technical field. They also noted with great satisfaction the successful conclusion of the inaugural session of the Nigeria-Gambia Joint Commission which coincided with the visit. The two leaders welcomed the conclusions of the fisheries agreement, the signing of a program for technical assistance cooperation, as well as the understanding reached on bilateral trade, joint ventures, and air services agreement.

Gen Buhari and President Jawara noted that the agreements and understanding reached would serve to further strengthen relations between the two countries, based on the principle of equality and mutual cooperation.

They agreed on the need for more frequent consultations between their officials. The two African leaders also reached an agreement on a number of subregional and other international issues including southern Africa, Chad, Namibia, and ECOWAS.

Speaking at the state banquet held in his honor yesterday in Banjul, the head of state gave an assurance that Nigeria would contribute about 3 million naira to the emergency relief fund set up by the last summit of the OAU in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Nigeria, he explained, was making the contribution in spite of her economic problems because of the enormity of socioeconomic difficulties facing Africa.

Comments on Dikko, Trial of Kidnap Plotters

'Noninvolvement' of Government Shown

AB151820 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] When in July last year an unsuccessful attempt was made in London to kidnap Nigerian fugitive Umaru Dikko, the British Government accused Nigeria's military administration of involvement in the plan. The Nigerian Government promptly denied that it had any hand in the kidnap bid. It said that while it wanted Dikko back home to clear himself of serious allegations of corruption, it would only use conventional methods in bringing him back to Nigeria. But even though the Thatcher administration was not impressed about the denial, it demanded that the immunity of diplomats at the Nigerian High Commission in London should be waived to enable British police to interrogate them. When this preposterous demand was rejected, the British Government embarked on a series of precipitate actions which seriously affected diplomatic relations between the United Kingdom and Nigeria.

First, two Nigerian diplomats in London were expelled. Then the British Government barred the Nigerian high commissioner to Britain, who was in Lagos on consultation, from returning to London. Of course, Nigeria reacted to this by expelling two British diplomats and prompted the recall of the British high commissioner to Lagos.

The diplomatic row created by the two administrations over the Dikko affair is yet to be finally settled. But the outcome of the trial in London of three Israelis and one Nigerian accused of carrying out the kidnap plot has clearly established the noninvolvement of the Nigerian Government in the incident.

According to a confessional statement by one of the Israelis, Alexander Barak, said to be the head of the operation, Dikko's abduction was initiated and financed by some private Nigerians in New York. The second Israeli, Felix Abitbol, told the British

police that Dikko's kidnap was the right thing to do because Dikko was, in his own words, "a no-good man." The third Israeli, Lev-Arie Shapiro, renowned anesthetist, said he believed that he was furthering the interest of his country by lending his services to the plot.

The significant result of the trial is that not a shred of evidence implicated the Nigerian Government in the abortive kidnap; and this was recognized and underlined by the British trial judge, Justice McCowan. He remarked in his judgement that none of the defendants had been motivated by greed, but by patriotism. Barak and Shapiro, the judge added, were involved because they genuinely felt that they were doing a service to the State of Israel. This is an absolute indication of the noninvolvement of the Nigerian Government in the kidnap attempt.

UK Media Criticized

AB181325 Lagos International Service in English 0955 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Viewpoint]

[Text] Soon after he arrived in Britain on fleeing Nigeria in the early days of 1984, Umaru Dikko launched a campaign of denigration against the new military administration in Nigeria. Initially, not many Nigerians took him seriously. After all, Dikko was regarded as the power behind the throne of the discredited civilian regime, which the military dismissed. His vituperations were therefore seen as the rantings of a frustrated man.

However, Nigerians became concerned when it was apparent that the British news media were in league with Dikko and his campaigns of calumny against his fatherland. The British media, including the state-owned British Broadcasting Corporation, BBC, placed their facilities at the disposal of the fugitive, Umaru Dikko, on a daily basis in aid of his campaign. For example, it was from the studios of the BBC World Service that Dikko announced his plan to carry out what he called a jihad against Nigeria and spoke of how he was recruiting mercenaries for that purpose.

It was therefore not surprising that when in July an attempt was made to kidnap Umaru Dikko, the British news media embarked on wild allegations that the Nigerian Government was involved in the plot. In fact, the media succeeded in getting the Thatcher administration to accept that figment of their imagination as a fact. But now the trial of four persons — three Israelis and the one Nigerian in connection of the aborted kidnap — has shown beyond any reasonable doubt that the Nigerian Government had no hands in the kidnap bid. In spite of this, however, the BBC has persisted in its futile effort to link the Nigerian Government with the incident.

Shortly after judgement was delivered in the case, the BBC broadcast on its African service the views of one David Allister, [words indistinct] investigator who vainly sought to prove Nigerian Government guilty of active participation in the unsuccessful abduction of Dikko. The BBC did not stop there. It also gave the fugitive Umaru Dikko the opportunity to resume his vituperations against the government of his fatherland.

The BBC and other British news organizations should be aware that the media in any civilized society have a responsibility not to use their powers to create unhealthy relations between nations. The continued denigration of Nigeria by the British media therefore remains an ill wind which will blow no one any good.

Continued UK Support Alleged

AB191230 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 19 Feb 85

[From the press review]

[Text] The *NIGERIAN TIDE* comments on the recent arrogant attitude of fugitive Umaru Dikko in London. The paper says that in spite of the genuine efforts by the Federal Government in explaining Dikko's case, Britain is still actively supporting him. The *TIDE* urges the Federal Government to expedite action on his extradition.

UK Weekly Cited

AB171345 Lagos NAN in English 1330 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] London, Feb 17 (NAN) — The British police have named American businessman Eleisha Cohen as the man thought to have organised the aborted Umaru Dikko kidnap last year, the London newspaper, *SUNDAY MAIL*, reported today.

According to the weekly, Mr Cohen used a middleman to hire British security firms to keep watch on the ex-transport minister, a Western Europe correspondent of the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) reports. The firm, however, tipped off anti-terrorist squad officers before fugitive Dikko could be flown to Nigeria in a crate, the paper said. It added that Mr Cohen admitted long-standing business interests in Nigeria but denied any involvement in the Dikko kidnap.

Three Israelis and a Nigerian were jailed in London last week for their part in the abortive kidnap.

SENEGAL

Diouf Briefs Cabinet; Kountche Visit Postponed

AB192129 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Excerpt] The Cabinet met this morning at the Republican Palace under the chairmanship of the head of state. In his report to the Cabinet, the president first spoke about the private visit he paid to Morocco from 16 to 17 February 1985. He expressed satisfaction with the warm and friendly welcome accorded him by His Majesty King Hassan II, his government, and people. He also expressed his satisfaction with the fruitful outcome of his discussions with the Moroccan king.

The head of state also informed the Cabinet of the postponement of the friendly and working visit that President Seyni Kountche of Niger was to pay to Senegal from 24 to 26 February 1985.

The head of state then informed the Cabinet that he would pay an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 2 to 5 March 1985 at the invitation of President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. During this visit, which falls within the framework of the mutual wish of Egypt and Senegal to strengthen their bonds of bilateral cooperation, the president will be accompanied by the ministers of foreign affairs and culture.

TOGO

Eyadema, French General Discuss Joint Maneuvers

AB181551 Lome Domestic Service in French 1230 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] The head of state, General Gnassingbe Eyadema, this morning granted an audience to Major General (Noel du Ferra), inspector of French external forces. The talks between General Eyadema and Maj Gen (du Ferra) were held at the presidential palace in Lome. They discussed the French-Togolese military maneuvers:

[Begin (Du Ferra) recording] It is an honor and a great pleasure for me to be in Togo and to see the president, General Eyadema, again. I had had in the past the opportunity to take part in several French-Togolese joint maneuvers. [passage indistinct] I believe the aim of these maneuvers, which are taking place at the request of General Eyadema, is to test the operational capability of the Togolese Armed Forces. It will also enable us to test our ability to work together within the framework of the defense agreements between Togo and France. These are the purposes of the maneuvers. I believe these maneuvers mark a milestone in military cooperation between France and Togo. I am convinced that, just as in the past, the present maneuvers are perfectly well organized. [end recording]

French Chief of Staff Lacaze Arrives 18 Feb

AB182118 Lome Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Excerpts] General Jeannou Lacaze, chief of the French General Staff, arrived in Lome early this evening within the framework of the upcoming French-Togolese military maneuvers. Gen Lacaze was met on arrival by Colonel Malouklin Ameni, deputy chief of staff of the Togolese Army, and the French ambassador to Togo.

ANGOLA

Joint Zaire River Commission Concludes Meeting

MB160740 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 15 Feb 85

[Text] Bilateral relations between Angola and Zaire have reflected a greater cooperation in the field of transportation since the last visit by the Angolan head of state to the Republic of Zaire. Accordingly, the Angolan-Zairian joint commission for the rehabilitation and maintenance of the navigable stretch of the Zaire River ended its working session in Luanda this afternoon. The participants assessed the proceedings of the previous session, which noted the positive results of the activities that have been carried out since the last session in 1979. The joint commission outlined new actions designed to strengthen the existing cooperation between Angola and Zaire in maintaining the navigable stretch of the Taire River. The preceedings deal with navigation, dredging, and hydrographic studies.

The meeting was chaired by Cristovao Domingos Francisco, acting chairman of the Angolan side of the joint commission, and (Soue Soje), head of the Zairian delegation to the talks.

In their speeches, the heads of both delegations stressed the importance of activities in which they are involved in reducing and overcoming problems related to the use of the navigable stretch of the Zaire River.

Memorandum Signed

AB180630 Kinshasa AZAP in French 0910 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Luanda, 17 Feb (PANA/AZAP) — Angola and Zaire have signed a memorandum in Luanda on Friday on the joint exploitation, maintenance, and conservation of the Zaire River's maritime canal, it was learned from an official source yesterday. According to the same source, the final document was drawn up as a result of the Angola-Zaire joint commission session which lasted from 11 to 15 February and was related to the two countries' effort to develop hydraulic studies and beaconing techniques. The commission has reiterated its desire to pursue efforts to guarantee the well-being of the Angolan and Zairian technicians working on the project.

The two delegations have decided to hold the next meeting in Kinshasa from 9 to 16 June. The signing of this agreement falls within the framework of cooperation between the two neighboring countries.

The Angola-Zaire joint commission on the Zaire River maritime canal, which was set up within framework of the cooperation agreements signed in 1978 between the two countries, constitutes a technical framework for periodic consultations between Angolan and Zairian specialists in seeking ways and means to improve the navigability of the 150-km long canal, which is between Matadi and Banana in Bas-Zaire Province. This canal, whose maintenance and conservation are entrusted to the Zaire maritime company, presents some difficulties for sea-going vessels which use the Zairian ports of Boma and Matadi.

Mongolian Official Arrives for 5-Day Visit

MB190713 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Sonomyn Lubsangombo, candidate member of the Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Mongolia, arrived in Luanda yesterday for a 5-day visit to the People's Republic of Angola. Soon after his arrival at the airport, the Mongolian official told our correspondent:

[Begin Lubsangombo recording in Mongolian with passage by passage translation into Spanish] I wish to convey the greetings of our people to the heroic Angolan people. We also wish to express our thanks to the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee and the Angolan people for giving us this opportunity to visit Angola. Our people have always been helping the struggle of the heroic Angolan people and we wish the Angolan people lots of success. We wish to develop the fraternal friendship and cooperation between our two countries and peoples. [end recording]

Sonomyn Lubsangombo was received by Comrade Afonso van Dunem Mbinda, secretary for external relations of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee.

Holds Talks With Almeida

MB200624 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The delegation of the People's Republic of Mongolia, which is led by Sonomyn Lubsangombo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, began talks in Luanda yesterday with an Angolan delegation led by Roberto de Almeida, secretary for ideology of the party Central Committee. Speaking at the beginning of the meeting, Roberto de Almeida said that the Angolan and Mongolian peoples are entrenched in the same combat zone because their respective revolutions are the target of imperialism's moves to destabilize them.

The Mongolian delegation has been in Angola since the day before yesterday on a working and friendship visit.

MOZAMBIQUE

Reportage on Visit by Mongolian Official

Visits Gaza

MB171120 Maputo Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Sonomyn Lubsangombo, candidate member of the Central Committee of Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Politburo and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of that Asian country, was in the Chokwe District of Gaza Province yesterday, accompanied by Minister in the Presidency Lieutenant General Armando Guebuza. This has been disclosed by the newspaper *DOMINGO*. In Chokwe District, Sonomyn Lubsangombo toured the Josina Machel agricultural cooperative, the Chilembene tomato factory, and the 1 May communal village, where he attended a brief mass meeting.

In his visit to Chokwe District, the Mongolian official reaffirmed the existing solidarity between the Mozambican and Mongolian peoples, and expressed his satisfaction at making the visit during the year when the 10th independence anniversary of the People's Republic of Mozambique is being celebrated.

Meets Machel

MB200919 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpt] President Samora Machel received Sonomyn Lubsangombo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Mongolia, in Maputo on Monday.

On the same day, the Mongolian delegation left Maputo for Angola. The delegation was seen off at the Maputo Airport by Minister in the Presidency Lieutenant General Armando Guebuza.

During the stay of the Mongolian delegation in our country, questions related to bilateral cooperation were discussed with a view to strengthening friendship between Mozambique and Mongolia.

Joint Communique Issued

MB200912 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Mozambique and Mongolia have examined economic cooperation between the imperialist forces and the racist Pretoria regime and stressed that this cooperation enables the continuation of apartheid and repression in South Africa. In a joint communique issued at the end of the visit to our country by Sonomyn Lubsangombo, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Mongolian People's Republic, the two countries also stressed that cooperation between imperialist forces and South Africa permits the continuation of the colonization of Namibia and aggressions against the frontline nations and Lesotho. This cooperation permits the formation of counterrevolutionary gangs in the region which act, in particular, against Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, and Zimbabwe, the communique said.

Mozambique and Mongolia spoke decisively against the so-called constitutional reforms brought about by the Pretoria regime, and expressed their militant solidarity with the heroic struggle of the South African people, led by the ANC. The communique stressed that both sides agreed that the true resolution of the Namibian problem rests on the application of UN Resolution No 435. Mozambique and Mongolia firmly condemned the continued presence of the racist South African troops in southern Angola and demanded their withdrawal, as well as the end of the aid they give to the UNITA counterrevolutionary gangs.

The two countries also expressed their support for the OAU resolutions on the Sahara and were pleased with the fact that the SDAR has retaken its seat as a full member of the organization since the last session.

Talks Held With South Africa on Agricultural Affairs

MB190919 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] One of the various existing commissions between Mozambique and South Africa, the agricultural commission, held a meeting in Maputo today. Various issues relating to the mechanisms of recruiting Mozambican manpower for the South Africa agricultural sector were discussed at the meeting.

Adolfo Justino, of the State Secretariat for Labor, who led the Mozambican delegation to the talks, said that the meeting also analyzed the problem of legalizing uncontracted agricultural workers living illegally in South Africa. Our reporters also learned from a source in the State Secretariat of Labor that as part of a process started a few years ago, there are 3,000 legalized Mozambicans in the Lowveld and Kruger Park farms in the eastern Transvaal. The same source says that there are indications that South Africa might increase the number of contracted agricultural workers.

In a short statement to journalists at the end of the meeting, Dr Van de Merwe, South African director general of manpower, said that at today's meeting, constructive proposals — which are very encouraging for both sides — were made.

The South African delegation is expected to return home today.

Further on Meeting

MB190717 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Delegations from South Africa and Mozambique have recommended that the working conditions of Mozambican migrant laborers in South Africa should be improved. After its first meeting in Maputo, the joint technical-agricultural commission suggested that an office be opened at Nelspruit, where Mozambican workers could renew their contracts.

It also recommended that contracts for new farm workers should be issued in Mozambique by a Mozambican state agency. A Mozambican spokesman said his government would like the migrants to receive professional training, and to return home with a certificate.

Other matters discussed by the delegations included compensation and pensions.

The two sides agreed to meet again in Nelspruit next month.

SOUTH AFRICA

Further Details on Raids on Antiapartheid Groups

MB191442 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1400 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 19, SAPA — At least 13 anti-apartheid activists were detained by police today in a country-wide swoop on leaders of the United Democratic Front [UDF] and its affiliate organisations, spokesmen for various groups said.

By late this afternoon, police in Pretoria had confirmed only six arrests countrywide.

Legal representative, Mrs Pricilla Jana, speaking from the Johannesburg UDF offices as police completed a five-hour search, said among eight held in the Transvaal were UDF president, Mrs Alberina Sisulu; national treasurer, Mr Casim Saloojee, and Transvaal vice-president, the Reverend Frank Chikane.

They and three others were to be sent to Natal to face charges of high treason, swelling the number of accused in the forthcoming Pietermaritzburg treason trial to 14, she added.

Mrs Jana named the other three to be charged as Natal trade unionist, Mr Sam Kikine; the Transvaal leader of the Anti-President's Council Committee, Professor Ismail Mahomed; and Mr Isaac Ngcobo.

Police confirmed the arrests of Mrs Sisulu, Mr Chikane, Mr Saloojee, Prof Mahomed, Mr Ngcobo and Mr Kikine.

Mrs Jana said police had confirmed that the charge faced by the six was treason and that the others held today were required only for polie questioning.

The original accused in the treason trial — including UDF Natal president, Mr Archie Gumede — have been in custody for nearly three months.

They will appear in court at the end of March, although the trial is not expected to start before June.

Those held for questioning in Johannesburg were:

— Mr Tom Manthata, of the South African Council of Churches;

— Women's movement activist Mrs June Mlangeni;

— Her daughter, Mrs Silvia Mkhize; and

— Her son-in-law, Mr Nicolas Mkhize.

From the Cape, UDF sources reported the arrests of two members of a community newspaper in Oudtshoorn and named them as Mr Reggie Olifant and Mr Humphrey Joseph, both affiliates of the UDF.

Mrs Jana said a list supplied to her of those held for questioning named Mr Sisa Njikalane, of the South African Allied Workers Union, as being detained. It was not known where he was being held.

There were police searches of the homes of at least 19 UDF activists in Johannesburg, Lenasia, Laudium and the East Rand.

Police started calling at homes with warrants to search and arrest at 3 am, according to family members.

The Johannesburg offices of the Transvaal Indian Congress and the UDF were searched as was the Media and Research Services (MARS) building in Braamfontein.

"Piles" of documents were removed in each case, employees said.

In Natal, the offices of trade unions and the committee of concern were raided. The homes and offices of people in the Cape connected with the UDF were also searched.

Other institutions hit in the raids included:

— The offices of several trade unions, including the General and Allied Workers Union in Braamfontein, Johannesburg;

— The offices of the Black Students Society at the University of the Witwatersrand which police searched from 4:30 am to 7:30 am;

— The Mowbray offices of the UDF and the *GRASSROOTS* community newspaper in Cape Town;

— The *SAAMSTHAN* community newspaper in Oudtshoorn;

— The offices of the Media and Resources Centre in Freeway House, Braamfontein; and

— The Federation of Transvaal Women.

4 Prisoners Released; 14 More Accept Botha Offer

MB170624 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] A spokesman for the Department of Prisons Services has confirmed in Pretoria that four long-term prisoners who were being held under the country's security legislation were released on Friday. They were released on condition that they renounce violence as a means of furthering their political aims.

A spokesman for the office of the minister of justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said in Cape Town that several prisoners who had accepted the state president's offer of conditional release had requested anonymity. It had therefore been decided not divulge the identities of any prisoners released under this offer.

It was reported earlier that 14 more long-term prisoners had responded positively to the offer. President Botha said in Cape Town on Friday that prisoners who had not yet served a substantial part of their sentences would be given credit on condition that they renounced violence.

3 Reject Offer

MB171045 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0750 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Johannesburg, Feb 17, SAPA — Four convicted members of the outlawed Pan-African Congress [PAC] are free men this weekend, newspaper reports said today.

At the same time, three African National Congress stalwarts held on Robben Island say they reject President Botha's terms of conditional release, the *SUNDAY STAR* reported.

The freed PAC men are Philemon Tefu, Dimake Malepe, Samuel Chibane and Isaac Mthimunye. All four live in Pretoria and were sentenced in 1963 to life terms for sabotage. The government says another 14 prisoners have agreed to refrain from violence as a means of achieving political aims, and will soon be released.

Yesterday Govan Mbeki, Milton Mkwayi and Elias Motsoaledi made it clear from Robben Island that they could leave the maximum security prison only when no conditions were attached to their release. There was speculation earlier in the week that Mkwayi, 61, would accept the offer, but when his lawyer saw him on the island yesterday, he emphatically denied it. This means that seven life prisoners, including Nelson Mandela, have so far spurned President Botha's offer.

On Thursday, Walter Sisulu, Ahmed Kathrada and Andrew Mlangeni signed a six-page document intended for Mr Botha, rejecting his terms.

Speaking from her Soweto home yesterday, Mrs Irene Mkwayi, said the speculation about her husbands future had left her dumbfounded. "I did not know what to think. But our lawyer says my husband insists that he would never accept the offer."

Mkwayi was convicted of sabotage a year after Mandela and the the other Rivonia trialists, having gone underground when police swooped on Johannesburg's northern suburbs in a raid that removed the cream of the leadership of the banned African National Congress. He was first accused in the sabotage trial of five ANC members in 1964 and was sentenced to a life term.

A fellow co-accused, David Kitson, was sentenced to 20 years and released a few months ago. He left for England, where last month his membership of the ANC was suspended.

The lawyer acting for the ANC men yesterday confirmed from Durban that the three ANC leaders on Robben Island would have nothing to do with the government's offer, the *SUNDAY STAR* said.

PAC Member Says Release Not Conditional

MB190901 Johannesburg CITY PRESS in English 17 Feb 85 p 1

[By Khulu Sibiya, Sinnah Kunene, and Martin Ntsoelengoe]

[Excerpt] Four Pan-Africanist Congress life prisoners have been freed under President P.W. Botha's "amnesty" — and at least three insist that no one asked whether they agreed to Botha's terms.

The four — Philemon Tefo, Isaac Mthimunye, Samuel Chiane, and Dimake Malepe — were released on Friday after more than 20 years on Robben Island for plotting to overthrow the state.

The Prisons Department has confirmed the release of four political prisoners, but refused to give their names.

It said another 14 had accepted Mr Botha's offer and were due to be released soon — and also refused to give their names.

But yesterday Mr Mthimunye said neither he, Mr Tefo nor Mr Chiane had agreed to renounce violence — the main conditions set by the president.

Mr Mthimunye was speaking on behalf of his two colleagues.

"No one made a conditional offer to us. We were told on Thursday night that we must pack our belongings.

"At 8 pm we left Robben Island, and the following day we were released from New Look prison in Pretoria," said Mr Mthimunye.

Interviewed at this home in Mamelodi, Mr Chibane told *CITY PRESS*: "We are not going to release any press statement because some newspapers have been telling the country many wrong things about us."

SOWETAN Editor Comments on Freed PAC Members

MB190747 London BBC World Service in English 1709 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] Some controversy surrounds the release in South Africa of four convicted members of the banned Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] at the weekend. They were freed after spending many years in prison on Robben Island. Their release followed an offer of an amnesty by the State President, P.W. Botha, to all political prisoners if they renounced violence as a means of achieving political change. The rival ANC and its jailed leader Nelson Mandela rejected the terms. Rick Wells talked to the editor of the *SOWETAN* newspaper, (Tami Mazwayi), who himself spent a year with the released PAC man on Robben Island. He asked (Tami Mazwayi) why he thought they apparently accepted the amnesty.

[Begin recording] [(Mazwayi)] Well, all four have been in jail since 1963 and they were convicted in 1964 so they have served a total of 21 years in jail. And two of them, who I know quite well, Dimake Malepe and Samuel Chibane, when convicted they were aged about 18. So they are now about 38 years of age. So I believe that that could have played determining factor in them accepting this offer of P.W. Botha.

[Wells] Were there any conditions attached to their release?

[(Mazwayi)] Well, it was a [words indistinct] condition that they should renounce violence.

[Wells] And have they done that?

[(Mazwayi)] The fact that they have been released means that they have renounced violence, and in any case when P.W. Botha announced that four people had accepted, he said that these people had accepted under his conditions that they must renounce violence and they had made no qualifications.

[Wells] So what has the reaction been, particularly from groups like the ANC, to their release?

[(Mazwayi)] Well, both the ANC and PAC have not yet issued any statements, but what I know is that within the community the reaction has been one of anger that they have defied the principles that have already been set by Nelson Mandela of just accepting unconditional release. So in terms of the principle of the matter, these four are being faulted, but they get sympathy if one looks at their personal circumstances. Now also you cannot compare these four with Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, and Govan Mbeki. I mean Mandela, Sisulu, Mbeki, and the others who have rejected this are political heavyweights and their words, their decisions, what they say, weighs much more heavily than these four people, because when they went to jail they were virtually unknown and even when they were in jail they were still unknown because they were not in the leadership of the PAC at the time. They were just caught up in its activities.

[Wells] So you are saying that even if these other 14 people are let out of Robben Island, it is still a bit of a hollow gesture as the PAC is not much of a force to be recknoned with compared to the ANC.

[(Mazwayi)] Our view of the situation is that we do not know much about what the PAC has been doing, but for some years ago the PAC used send a chill up anybody's spine here in South Africa because they were a no-nonsense organization. They had clear directions where they were going to and apparently internal wrangling has made them a shadow of their former selves. So along those lines I would agree with you, that the PAC is playing a poor second to the ANC and the government. What the people and the government are worried about now are the ANC. [end recording]

Namibian Authorities To Take Over Rails, Roads

MB200945 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0847 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Parliament, Feb 20, SAPA — The SWA/Namibian administration would assume full responsibility for rail and road services in the territory from April 1, the minister of transport affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, said today.

Introducing his department's 1985-86 budget he said that, in accordance with government policy, South African Transport Services [SATS] assets necessary to operate rail and road services in SWA/Namibia would be transferred to the territory's administration from the beginning of the new financial year.

"From that date transport services' loan indebtedness to the treasury will be reduced accordingly, while the administrator-general of South-West Africa will accept full responsibility for transport services, rail and road services in South-West Africa."

After April SATS would operate and administer road and rail services in the territory only as a contractor. Arrangements in respect of financial responsibility for operating losses would be resolved mutually by the administrator-general and the Departments of Finance and Transport Services. SATS interests in air and tourist services in SWA/Namibia and in Walvis Bay Harbour would not be affected by the transfer, Mr Schoeman said.

"Meanwhile, attention is being given, in consultation with the trade unions, to the position of the (SATS) personnel when the railways in South-West Africa become entirely independent."

Mr Schoeman said SATS expected operating losses in SWA/Namibia for 1984/85 would be about R80 million, against R90 illion in the previous year. He attributed the decrease to special efforts to reduce costs and increase revenue.

Reportage, Reaction to Violence at Crossroads

16 Killed, 246 Injured

MB200749 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0743 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Cape Town, Feb 20, SAPA — The death toll from two days of rioting at Crossroads squatter camp has risen to 16 with 230 injured, police in Cape Town confirmed today.

Lieutenant Attie Laubscher of the Police Liaison Department said the situation was "very calm and peaceful" today. It was possible, however, that more bodies would be discovered as clearing-up operations began. Lieutenant Laubscher said six policemen had been injured and 28 police vehicles damaged. Two administration board vehicles and a post office vehicle had been set alight and 16 private cars had been damaged.

Talks between Mr Timo Bezuidenhout, the chief commissioner of the Department of Cooperation and Development, and squatter leaders seemed to have defused the situation this morning. The crossroads committee, under the chairmanship of Mr Samuel Langa, had undertaken to try to restore peace, and Mr Bezuidenhout had said no one would be moved from the camp unless the committee had been consulted. Crossroads residents would have to agree not to hold large gatherings and would have to clear roads around the camp of debris.

Viljoen Blames 'Rumors'

MB191736 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The minister of cooperation, development, and education, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, expressed regret that the unrest at Crossroads, which had led to loss of life, had begun as a result of unsubstantiated rumors about an immediate and large-scale removal of people to Kayelitsha. In a statement issued in Cape Town, Dr Viljoen again gave the assurance that there will be no removal until there had been further consultations. Dr Viljoen also emphasized that the government wanted to deal with the essential process of urban renewal as it affected squatter conditions in Cape Town as part of a wider approach to the orderly urbanization of blacks in the Western Cape, and he expressed the hope that the statement would contribute to the restoring of peace and order at Crossroads so as to make consultation possible. Dr Viljoen invited residents of Crossroads to make use of the assistance offered by his department if they wanted to move of their own accord to Kayelitsha, where living conditions were far better.

Johannesburg on Unrest

MB201058 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] The mass violence in Crossroads this week, its trail of dead and injured, was an unmitigated tragedy. It should never have happened. It was directed against a state action that existed only in the imaginations of the people, and the nefarious plans of those who spread the false rumor, that the people of Crossroads were about to be forcibly removed. It brought the terror of unreasoning self-destructiveness into the lives of a simple community, and exposed hard-pressed policemen trying to restore a measure of order to the area to the rocks and petrol bombs hurled by enraged mobs, altogether unnecessarily.

According to all reports, the rioting residents at Crossroads were driven by a single urge: to resist their imminent removal en masse to somewhere else. Yet, their belief that such a removal was being planned was completely unfounded, as the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, made clear in an emphatic statement issued during the day. What is more, it took no cognizance whatever of two policy advances of such import that their recent announcement made headlines throughout the country and even abroad.

In the first week of this parliamentary session, Dr Viljoen announced the development of a planned urbanization program. Its aims, among other things, would be to make provision for realistic conditions for new urban dwellers, and less than a week later, he announced the suspension of forced removals pending an inquiry, with established communities to be resettled only after consultation. It is clear that a great many people have no idea of what those advances imply. Planned urbanization must necessarily include a policy of permitting the growth of informal residential areas provided merely with elementary services. The upgrading of such areas would in due course have to take place from within, by the community itself, with assistance from the state and private sector. Properly handled, this joint approach would be applied well before a situation such as that at Crossroads could arise, before there could be any mushrooming of an intolerably overcrowded, disordered mass of humanity exposed to the health hazards, the social evils, and the law of the gang that typify such conditions.

Where the situation already exists, however, the task of upgrading becomes infinitely more complex, and it places a premium for all concerned on forbearance, mutual understanding, and not least clear channels of communication. It requires of those in authority a sympathetic awareness of the fears of an uprooted people, whose main concern is keeping body and soul together, and it requires of the community itself a willingness to accept the physical realities of its situation, and the demands they make in any initiative to improve the quality of life for the people.

Crossroads has become an extraordinarily complex problem of urban blight and renewal. It has been made even more difficult by its exploitation by groups whose political interests dictate race confrontation rather than cooperation and reform, but the policy basis on which a fair solution can be built does exist, and no time should be lost in translating it into action.

'Official Insensitivity' Partial Cause

MB200933 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 20 Feb 85 p 7

[Editorial: "Official Insensitivity"]

[Text] Crossroads has been a contentious issue for years; it forms part of the wider problem of defining the place of black workers — and wives and children — in the Western Cape and the incessant, but unsuccessful, official efforts to get rid of them. The current effort is in the direction of getting people to move to Kayelitsha. As against this is the recent government statement, albeit in qualified form, declaring the suspension of forced removals.

There is hardly a more sensitive issue in South Africa. Yet last Friday the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, made a statement notable for its insensitivity. The government could not allow the "unacceptable social conditions" at Crossroads to continue, he said...illegal and disorderly squatting could not be tolerated and it was a "high priority" to move people to Kayelitsha...additional staff and transport were being supplied to speed up preparations for the removal.

However grim that message, no doubt it was written even larger — perhaps distorted, too — as word of it spread around Crossroads during the weekend. On Monday, the harvest of death and destruction was reaped. Dr Viljoen hastily denied that removals were to happen immediately. No, the violence cannot be condoned. But members of the government who are fond of accusing others of provocation and inflammatory statements need to examine their own navels: official insensitivity was at least part of the cause of this latest tragedy.

Radio Freedom on Violence

MB200720 Lusaka Radio Freedom in English 1700 GMT 19 Feb 85

[station commentary]

[Text] Exactly 2 weeks ago in our commentary we said the announcement made by the apartheid regime's minister of cooperation and development, Gerrit Viljoen, that the regime is to halt forced mass removals, was simply a nonstarter. Current events at Crossroads so-called squatter camp in the Western Cape speak for themselves. At this very same hour, it is said, a gloomy atmosphere is heavily hanging around the settlement while invading riot racist police, armed heavily with all sorts of armaments, are mercilessly killing and injuring innocent unarmed civilians.

For well over 7 years now, with the declaration that Crossroads was a so-called black spot, the people there have never ever known any peace of mind. They have undergone telling hardships. To them the rumbling sounds of bulldozers flattening their tin shacks indiscriminately became their way of life. Their sons and daughters, who have never known the correct meaning of home and comfort, whose only reliable night blanket became the dark sheet of night with its shining stars, have suffered more than words could say.

The use of the military, the police, and other forms of force in carrying out these removals comes to us as no big suprise. Crossroads, in particular, has been unwavering in its resistance to apartheid genocide. It has compelled the regime to vow that it will do anything at its disposal to rub it off the map of the Western Cape. That today we see trigger-crazy racist riot police indiscriminately murdering and injuring the community there, is exactly in line with the regime's vow and its crazy, cherished dream of turning our ancestral land into a so-called whites-only republic.

The senseless killing of innocent people at Crossroads by the regime not only triggers sad memories of the past, but once more brings to us the urgent necessity of resisting bitterly, with everything that we have at our disposal. To the people of Crossroads, a long, hard struggle against the crimes of apartheid awaits them. Equally, wherever we are, we should also be prepared to play whatever role is necessary in that struggle. The regime has dismally failed to crush the courage and resistance of the people of Crossroads. With its guns, dogs, bulldozers, and sneezing machines, it has failed to govern that community.

Crossroads has been the focus of mass removals during the past few years. The latest police-Army violence is just another reminder that so long as apartheid exists in our beloved motherland, there shall never be peace. Our collective objective should always be the total dismantling of the abhorrent system of apartheid. All of us together, as comrades in the struggle, should stand up in solidarity with the people of Crossroads. Their plight should be taken up throughout the country. Together with them, we can be able to defeat to facists' plans. There is no turning back. Victory is in sight; let us snatch it.

UDF Official on Police Raids, Crossroads Violence

MB191729 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 19 Feb 85

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Trouble simmers on in South Africa. Clashes between residents of the Crossroads shanty town outside Cape Town and security forces continue and the death toll has risen to at least six. At the same time, police have raided offices of the antiapartheid United Democratic Front [UDF] right across the country. There have been a number of arrests, including five UDF leaders, among them the organization's president, Albertina Sisulu. Well, just after the UDF's Cape Town offices were raided this morning, Fiona Ledger asked regional organizer Trevor Manuel what had happened.

[Begin recording] [Manuel] The police had arrived at our offices at 0530 with a very wide search warrant allowing them to seize any UDF documents which were in the office. They spent between 0530 and virtually 1400 this afternoon searching the office and confiscating documents.

[Ledger] Why do you think that the government has chosen to move against the UDF on such a large scale at this particular moment and time.

[Manuel] We are facing a situation in South Africa of a deepening economic crisis. Throughout our country people are rising up. Here in Cape Town we have witnessed over the past 2 days the people of Crossroads, for instance, resisting very strongly an attempt to forcibly remove them to a resettlement area. We are witnessing in other parts of the country uprisings against the increasing cost of living, and on the whole there are a great many indications that the South African Government is feeling the pinch of resistance at this point and time.

[Ledger] Are you saying then that the South African authorities are trying to link the UDF with, for example, the disturbances that have taken place at Crossroads and elsewhere in South Africa?

[Manuel] There is no doubt about that. When in October of last year the minister of law and order had threatened to ban the UDF, he had given an indiction that wherever there is uprising in the country, the UDF is directly associated with it.

[Ledger] And are you in fact involved in any way with such incidents as took place at Crossroads?

[Mauel] The community of Crossroads is strongly supportive of the UDF. The committee representing the community of Crossroads are indirectly affiliated to the UDF. What has happened there is that the people resisted an attempt by the government yesterday morning when they moved in with police to lay the basis for removal in the area.

[Ledger] But did the UDF organize that resistance?

[Manuel] The UDF did not organize the resistance. We are a front organization. The decision by the people of Crossroads to resist an attempt to remove them — the decision to defend their houses and the decision for families to remain together as families — was a decision taken entirely by the people of Crossroads. We in the UDF are commited to supporting the demands of the people of Crossroads, and we understand the conditions under which violence has occurred there. [end recording]

ANC Comments

MB191836 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has said the ongoing wave of arrests and detentions of United Democratic Front leaders in South Africa will serve only to step up the offensive for the destruction of the apartheid system. In a statement issued in Lusaka today, a spokesman for the ANC said that the recent arrests and detentions of democratic leaders on charges of treason and the wanton murder of innocent demonstrators at Crossroads was evidence of the regime's determination to maintain its system of apartheid.

The spokesman also [word indistinct] his organization's unequivocal condemnation of the regime's campaign of terror, calling on the people of South Africa to embark on a determined action for the immediate release of all South African political prisoners.

He also called on the international community to join in efforts of dismantling apartheid ensuring the total isolation of the South African regime.

ZIMBABWE

Government Postpones General Election Until June

MB200621 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The government has postponed the general election to June this year. The minister of justice, legal, and parliamentary affairs, Comrade Eddison Zvobgo, made this announcement at a news conference in Harare yesterday. He said the postponement has been made on the recommendations of both the delimitation committee and the electoral commission.

Comrade Zvobgo said the exact date of the general election will be announced in due course by the prime minister, Comrade Mugabe. He also hinted that Parliament, which is in recess, may be recalled to resume business.

The minister said the number of people on the supplimentary voters role will be out next week, adding that the figure could be between 75,000 and 1 million.

Muzorewa Comments on Election 'Rigging' by ZANU-PF

MB161155 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1112 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Harare, Feb 16, SAPA — Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the former Zimbabwe-Rhodesian prime minister, said today he had "reliable information" that the ruling ZANU (PF) party was beginning to rig the forthcoming elections.

Speaking at a press conference here, Bishop Muzaorewa said a "massive campaign" had been launched to recruit Mozambicans, register them as citizens, and then as voters. "This is one of the first steps to rigging elections, which we are quite aware of," he said.

The bishop said that in many ways black Zimbabweans were worse off now under the government of Mr Robert Mugabe than they were during the UDI regime, and possibly worse off than blacks in South Africa, and Uganda under former President Idi Amin.

"Zimbabwe has been totally deprived of the freedom she won by self-denial and supreme sacrifice," he said. To emphasise his point, he held up a large photograph, taken from the television series "Roots," of a black slave with a steel collar around his neck.

The forthcoming elections, he said, were "fraught with lack of freedom and fairness." However, his party would contest them because it believed it should "try and weather the storm."

He recited a catalogue of incidents of violence against opposition parties which he said were part of a "rule of terror" mounted by the ruling party.

Political parties had no freedom of movement. Instead, the ruling party had issued instructions "from the highest authority" that the activities of other parties should be disrupted. "No-go areas" had been established to keep out opposition parties. He said he had evidence that 40,000 members of the youth brigade had been deployed to start "a cold and calculated politically motivated intimidatory terrorist campaign in rural areas."

Statements issued by the UANC [United African National Council] and other parties were ignored by the national media, except when they were published as lies or character assassinations. The UANC had applied for permission on 501 occasions to hold political meetings, and all had been turned down, he claimed.

He said these charges had been presented to the government, but were met with contempt, were ignored or were suppressed. "The only time they (the government) pay any attention is when the whites complain," he said. Every day, there were cases when black members of other parties were assaulted, abducted, or killed.

ZANU-PF Officials Begin Election Campaign

MB171204 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] ZANU-PF officials today launched their election campaign in Gweru, where the vice president and second secretary of the party, Comrade Simon Muzenda, addressed more than 30,000 people. Appealing to the crowd to vote for ZANU-PF, Comrade Muzenda said the party needs another 5 years to effectively implement its work in developing Zimbabwe. He said that already the ZANU-PF-led government had accomplished several projects in the country, including health, education, and social services.

Comrade Muzenda disclosed that in 1980 there were only 35 schools in the Midlands, but now there are 188, adding that there were only 86 clinics, to which the government has added 48. The vice president and second secretary of ZANU-PF said that the ruling party is committed to peace, unity, and security in Zimbabwe.

Candidates Chosen

MB180612 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Text] The ZANU-PF secretary for information and publicity, Comrade Nathan Shamuyarira, has announced that the ZANU-PF has chosen its 80 candidates to contest the general election. Comrade Shamuyarira told the ZNA yesterday that the candidates names will be announced soon by the party's first secretary, Comrade Robert Mugabe. He said the speaker of the House of Assembly, Comrade Didymus Mutasa, and the president of the senate, Comrade Norman Makombe, are not on the list of candidates. Comrade Shamuyarira said they will be sponsored by the party to continue in their present posts. According to the Constitution, they are eligible for nomination to those posts since they are members of the House of Assembly and the Senate.

Meanwhile, the party's secretary for transport and welfare, Comrade Didymus Mutasa, says the ZANU-PF manifesto for this year's general election will be ready for distribution by the end of this month. Comrade Mutasa told the party rally at Mapurura center yesterday that the manifesto, which will spell out ZANU-PF's objectives and policies for the next 5 years, will be printed in Shona, Ndebele, and English. He said copies fof the manifesto will be distributed to all districts of the party throughout the country.

Mugabe Says Security To Be Tightened in Matabeleland

MB170654 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1152 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Text] Harare, Feb 16, SAPA — Security will be tightened in Matebelcland to counter "reactionary forces" planning to disrupt Zimbabwe's first post-independence elections scheduled for this year, the prime minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, said here today.

He told the first national assembly meeting of the ruling ZANU (PF) Women's League at a city hotel that dissidents wanted to disrupt peace and the elections in Matabeleland, and the government would put maximum effort into protecting the poll.

In an apparent reference to Mr Joshua Nkomo and his opposition ZAPU party, Mr Mugabe said: The fathers and mothers of dissidents as well as the dissidents themselves will be rejected at the elections. The dissident party and the dissident father are both destined not only for rejection but for destruction as well.

He said Zimbabwe could have made more progress in its development programmes since independence if the country had not been hit by drought in the past three years. The government had to divert millions of dollars, originally earmarked for development, to drought relief projects. The problems had been further compounded by the security situation, the world recession and the "preponderance of multi-national corporations in our economy."